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*COLONIAL REPORTS*

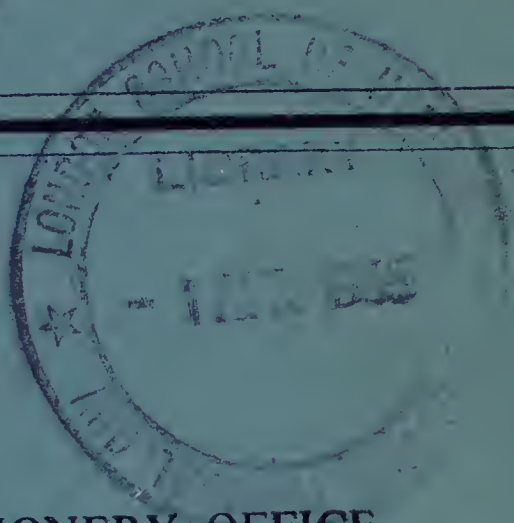
Nyasaland  
1953

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LONDON: HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

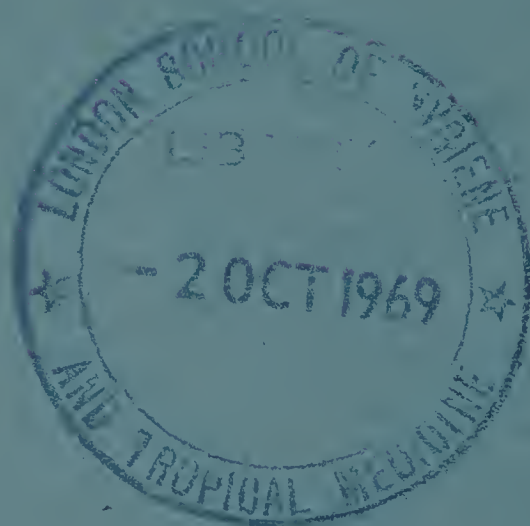
1954

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COLONIAL OFFICE

Report

on the

**Nyasaland  
Protectorate**

for the year

**1953**



# Contents

*Page*

## PART I

General Review	..	..	..	..	..	5
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## PART II

Chapter 1	Population	..	..	..	..	20
„ 2	Occupations, Wages and Labour Organization	..			..	22
„ 3	Public Finance and Taxation			..	..	34
„ 4	Currency and Banking	..		..	..	46
„ 5	Commerce	..	..	..	..	47
„ 6	Production	..	..	..	..	51
„ 7	Social Services	..	..	..	..	83
„ 8	Legislation	..	..	..	..	101
„ 9	Justice, Police and Prisons	..		..	..	102
„ 10	Public Utilities and Public Works			..	..	112
„ 11	Communications	..	..	..	..	116
„ 12	Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services	..		..	..	124
„ 13	Local Forces	..	..	..	..	130
„ 14	General	..	..	..	..	132

## PART III

Chapter 1	Geography and Climate	..	..	..	139
„ 2	History	..	..	..	141
„ 3	Administration	..	..	..	149
„ 4	Weights and Measures	..	..	..	158
„ 5	Reading List	..	..	..	158
Map	..	..	..	..	(Cover iii)



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# PART I

## Review of 1953

The year will be remembered in the history of Nyasaland on account of the great constitutional change resulting from the federation of Nyasaland with the two Rhodesias.

The final conference on Federation was held in London in January, 1953, and the federal scheme prepared by this conference was subsequently accepted by the Governments of the three Central African territories as well as by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. Under an Order in Council, issued on 1st August, the new constitution took effect on 3rd September. An interim Federal Government was formed and held office until December when, as a result of elections held in all three territories, the Federal Party was returned to power by a large majority.

In May, African opposition to Federation culminated in the issue of orders by Native Authority Gomani of the Ncheu District that certain Government laws should not be obeyed in his area. Police action was necessary to remove the Chief, and the administration of his area was temporarily taken over by the District Commissioner. Shortly after this, a number of other Chiefs resigned as Native Authorities in protest against the introduction of Federation. Most of these later applied for reinstatement and in some cases the requests were granted.

In August and September disturbances occurred in the Southern Province. Although the Federation issue had created a tension in the political atmosphere, the disturbances were fundamentally the result of land grievances, among them a dislike of the tenant system at present in force. Following the seizure by a European estate-owner at Luchenza of two Africans engaged in stealing oranges from his orchard, large crowds collected and the seeds of opposition to Government laws were sown by unscrupulous political agitators. Thereafter gangs of Africans moved through the affected areas, encouraging labour to cease work, forming road blocks, cutting telephone wires and later destroying Native Authority buildings and in some cases "deposing" the lawful Native Authority. Police reinforcements were obtained from neighbouring territories and, as a result of intensive police action, law and order had been restored by the end of September. Eleven Africans were killed and a large number were injured as a result of the disturbances. Government is at present investigating the grievances which gave rise to the events described above.

The coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 2nd June was celebrated in all districts throughout the Protectorate. The main parade at Limbe was attended by His Excellency the Governor.

Two new members were appointed to the Legislative Council in September, bringing the total membership to the Governor as President, three *ex officio* members, seven official members and ten unofficial members including three Africans.

Nineteen fifty-three was another satisfactory year for food production. A large surplus of maize was available and purchases by the Produce Marketing Board of the current season's trust land crop amounted to 41,223 tons, compared with 47,148 tons in 1952. The total surplus, including estate production and purchases of the previous season's crop, was 49,067 tons. Exports amounted to 38,529 tons, mainly to Northern Rhodesia. The policy of confining maize as an economic crop to those areas known to be suitable for its cultivation was further pursued in 1953.

A record crop of groundnuts was harvested and purchases at produce markets amounted to 5,689 tons, compared with 4,837 tons in 1952. Had the season been more favourable an even larger crop would have been harvested as the large profits derived from groundnut production in 1952 had led to a considerable increase in the acreage planted. Record crops of paddy (4,330 tons) and wheat (650 tons) were also harvested. Pulses did moderately well and the cassava crop was satisfactory.

The year was also, on the whole, a successful one for economic crops. Tobacco production at some 36 million lbs. exceeded that of the previous season by about 16 million lbs. and was only just below the record figure for 1951. Of the total, over 24 million lbs. was fire-cured, compared with 12½ million lbs. in 1952. The large crop was the result of favourable climatic conditions in the main growing areas but, owing to the heavy strain which it placed on the limited handling and curing facilities provided by the average grower, the quality of the leaf was disappointing and prices were below those in 1952. Flue-cured production was slightly above that for 1952, and the better quality leaf obtained satisfactory prices. The sun- air-cured crop was more than double that in 1952, the average price remaining about the same.

The 1952/3 cotton crop, totalling 10,787 tons of seed cotton, fell short by 450 tons of the Protectorate's previous record output during 1934/35 season. The satisfactory crop was largely the result of the new system of growing introduced in 1952 to control the ravages of the red bollworm; it was also partly due to favourable growing weather and to an increase in the acreage planted to cotton during the year.

Tea production once again declined as a result, partly of an unfavourable season and partly of economies in fertilizer programmes, necessitated on a number of estates by the disastrous fall in prices in the latter part of 1952. Production amounted to 13,798,177 lbs.,

compared with 14,654,977 lbs. in 1952. With the recovery of prices, which took place during the year, increased production may be expected in 1954.

A decrease in the acreage planted to tung reflected the anxiety of growers regarding the price. This and the biennial bearing habits of tung resulted in a decrease in the production of tung oil from 807 tons in 1952 to 385 tons in 1953.

The Produce Marketing Board, established by legislation at the end of 1952 to replace the old Maize Control Board, assumed responsibility during the year for the marketing of maize, groundnuts and beans. The Department of Marketing and Supply was abolished in May and its functions divided between the Customs and Agricultural Departments.

Agricultural research continued at the various research stations throughout the Protectorate. At Chitedze, the Central Research Station near Lilongwe, research included maize, tobacco and fertility trials. In the maize trials the Rhodesian hybrids again showed their superior yielding capacity; breeding work on the development of a maize hybrid suitable for Nyasaland continued. In the tobacco trials the application of nitrogenous fertilizer again gave the most significant results. Some promising selections were obtained from line breeding.

Tea research continued at Mlanje and Mimosa and considerable improvements at the latter station were made possible by a generous grant from the Nyasaland Tea Association. Cotton research was undertaken at Makanga and at the Tung Experimental Station at Bvumbwe, apart from work on tung, demonstrations of mixed farming were given and preparations were made for experiments in annual crops.

Training of African agricultural staff continued at the Mpemba Centre and a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds was approved for the establishment of a joint Agricultural and Veterinary training centre on land attached to the Agricultural Research Station at Chitedze. The centre will be capable of accommodating at least 100 students. A training centre for African cultivators was opened at Tuchila during the year.

Natural Resources Boards gave their attention to a variety of subjects during the year. Bunding work continued and a total of 12,512 miles were made up in spite of the interruptions to the bunding programme caused by the disturbances.

The three Provincial livestock centres made good progress during the year, especially those in the Northern and Southern Provinces. At the latter, as a result of experiments conducted in 1952, week-old bull calves of European breeds which had been flown up from Southern Rhodesia were reared and sold to European farmers.

The livestock census of the Protectorate in 1953 showed a decrease in the cattle population of 2.2 per cent., a decrease in the goat population of 1 per cent. and an increase in the sheep population of 7.4

per cent. There were no major outbreaks of disease among stock during the year and conditions were in fact more favourable than usual. Production of hides and skins increased from 367,910 lbs. in 1952 to 426,475 lbs. in 1953. Ghee production increased from 19½ to 25 tons. Research facilities were greatly improved and production of vaccine was extended. There was a marked improvement in the type of "*khola*" erected by cattle-owners, especially for their young stock.

The Forestry Department made good progress with forest development throughout the Protectorate. The area under Government plantations increased from 7,380 to 9,744 acres. Of this, 6,990 acres have been planted since the beginning of the development scheme in 1948. Trials at Bunda and Lilongwe, designed to discover the most suitable species of tree for the dry tobacco-growing areas of the Central Province, continued to show interesting results. Production of cedar on Mlanje Mountain by the Nyasaland Plywood Company amounted to some 120,000 cu. ft. Good progress was made with the Department's utilization depot near Blantyre and the timber impregnation plant which forms part of it was brought into operation on an experimental scale. The Forestry training school at Dedza had a successful first year's operation and 15 Foresters were trained.

Game, fish and tsetse control are dealt with under a single department. A new Game Ordinance was enacted during the year which makes comprehensive provision for the protection and control of game and provides for the establishment of national parks, game reserves and controlled areas for hunting. The success of attacks on vermin, which originally formed the major problem of the Department and in 1953 accounted for over 7,000 animals, coupled with the initiation of some locally directed effort against animal pests, has now made possible a further shift of emphasis towards the control of dangerous game and the conservation of game within its proper boundaries.

Fishing, both African and non-African, continued normally throughout the year. Efforts to increase African activity persisted, supported by the bulk sale of good gill-net twine to African fishermen. A further increase in this type of fishing resulted. Non-African fishing also showed a slight improvement, total landings being over 2,000 tons, compared with 1,978 tons in 1952. The Fisheries Research team from Fort Rosebery established itself at Nkata Bay during the year. It will conduct a two year investigation into the fisheries of Lake Nyasa.

The survey of the distribution and ecology of the tsetse fly in the Protectorate continued. This work is financed from the Research Allocation of the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. By the end of the year the main belts of the Southern and Central Provinces had been completed and the final report was in the course of preparation.

The lack of accurate vital statistics in respect of the African population makes it difficult to determine the trends taking place. The African population is, however, increasing and was estimated to be

2,501,010 at the end of 1953. The European population at the end of the year was estimated at 4,387 and the Asian population at 6,178.

Internal retail trade continued normally during the year although there was a tendency to refrain from buying large stocks until it was known what effect Federation would have on import duties. When it became clear that no change was likely to take place for some time imports continued normally. Some concern was expressed by traders in the Lower River area over the number of hawkers doing business at their expense during the cotton marketing season and legislation, designed to protect legitimate trade interests from itinerant traders, was under consideration at the end of the year. A survey of the distribution industry in the Protectorate was carried out by Dr. F. Chalmers Wright, with financial assistance from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds. The resulting report is awaited.

The value of imports decreased in comparison with 1952 but the value of exports increased as the result of another favourable agricultural season. Imports, including Government imports but excluding bullion and specie were valued at £7,579,735, compared with £8,744,626 in 1952, while exports, excluding bullion and specie but including re-exports, were valued at £7,278,765, compared with £6,298,495 in 1952. The most noteworthy increases among exports were tobacco, cotton, groundnuts and rice. Of the total value of imports (excluding Government imports, bullion and specie) the United Kingdom provided 51.43 per cent. (44.55 per cent. in 1952), the rest of the Commonwealth 32.43 per cent. (24.69 per cent. in 1952) and foreign countries 16.14 per cent. (30.76 per cent. in 1952).

During the year three new co-operative societies were registered and the registration of two societies and one union was cancelled. The total number of registered societies remained at 71. The outstanding feature of the year was the rapid development of the Kilupula Co-operative Union and its four member societies of rice growers. The Union and three of its member societies were formed in 1952, the fourth society being added in 1953. The 1953 crop handled amounted to just over 2,000 tons and an even larger acreage was prepared for planting in the 1953/4 season. Other societies also prospered with the exception of African consumer societies which did not do well. In contrast the European consumer society in the Zomba area had an extremely successful year's trading.

In the sphere of communications the Lake steamer, *Ilala II*, continued to make regular voyages round the Lake. The Railways considerably increased their rolling stock during the year and carried 326,324 tons of goods, compared with 278,782 tons in 1952, and 355,969 passengers, compared with 316,547 in 1952. The clearing of goods through the port of Beira proceeded smoothly during the year.

The Central African Airways Corporation, subsidized by the Governments of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, continued to provide all internal and regional air services. The

internal services, connecting the main centres in all three Provinces, continued to prove most popular. The scheme, under which African labour is transported by Dakota from Lilongwe to Francistown in Bechuanaland and thence by rail to South Africa, proceeded and operations were intensified during the year. A site for the new international airport near Salima was selected. Aeronautical communications and the territorial meteorological service were further developed.

The tarmacadamizing of roads in the Southern Province under contract continued and by the end of the year a total of 80 miles had been completed, comprising the Blantyre–Chileka, Limbe–Zomba and Limbe–Luchenza sections. The Colonial Development Corporation completed the first part of its contract in respect of the Nkata Bay–Vipya Road. A number of road surveys were undertaken and road maintenance operations were further mechanized.

During 1953 the Posts and Telecommunications Department made further progress. Total revenue from all sections increased from £134,271 in 1952 to £190,451 in 1953, a reflection of the steady increase of post office business. Two new post offices and three new postal agencies were opened and savings bank and money order facilities were extended. There were two special issues of stamps during the year, to commemorate the Coronation of Her Majesty and the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition and a complete new range of Nyasaland Queen Elizabeth stamps were on sale from 1st September.

On the engineering side the international telephone service was extended through Southern Rhodesia to the United Kingdom. Internally, the trunk mileage was increased from 2,412 to 3,428 in 1953. New automatic exchanges were brought into operation in Limbe and Blantyre. An automatic exchange was also opened at Domasi and four manual exchanges were installed at smaller centres. Four new radio telegraph links were opened and general telegraph statistics showed an increase of 17.47 per cent. on received traffic and 19.91 per cent. on transmitted traffic. The Postal training school at Zomba operated on a reduced scale owing to the absence of a number of officers on leave.

Good progress was made on the new Blantyre/Limbe steam power station during the year and the new undertaking will be put into operation in the first half of 1954. In Zomba the hydro extension to the present undertaking was also nearing completion at the end of the year and will, with the new power station, be put into operation in 1954. In Lilongwe the undertaking was extended to cover most of the township and sales of energy increased from 5,000 units per month in September, 1952, to 28,000 units per month in September, 1953.

Sir William Halcrow and Partners continued operations on the Shire Valley Survey and the Water Development Branch of the Agricultural Department remained seconded to the firm for full-time work in connection with the survey. The ultimate objective is the stabilization of the level of Lake Nyasa and the control of the waters

of the Shire River. If this can be achieved, a large-scale hydro-electrical project could be undertaken on the Shire, large areas of land could be reclaimed and other areas irrigated.

Work proceeded during the year on the new Blantyre/Limbe water supply scheme. The first discharge of water over the spillway of the new Mudi Dam began in March and by the end of the year the contract was almost complete. In order to bring the scheme into partial operation temporary pumps were installed to offset delays in the delivery of the permanent pumps. A new water supply system is also being installed in Lilongwe and satisfactory progress on construction was made during the year. In Zomba a preliminary report for major extensions to the present system was prepared.

The geological mapping of the Southern Province by the Department of Geological Survey continued and some 1,700 square miles were covered during the year, thus completing the survey of the southern half of the Shire Valley. Other activities of the Department included the investigation of a number of old volcanic vents and the successful drilling of 71 boreholes in various parts of the Protectorate.

Interest in the rare earth minerals, monazite and pyrochlore, associated with the volcanic vents mentioned above, was maintained and intensive prospecting was undertaken. The possibilities of exploiting the bauxite deposits on Mlanje Mountain were further examined. Initial shipments of kyanite were exported to the United Kingdom during the year.

Recruiting permits were again granted in 1953 to the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association and the Rhodesia Native Labour Supply Commission. In the case of the former, the quota of recruits was increased from 7,000 to 10,000 while the latter, retained a quota of 8,000.

The unskilled labour supply during the year was generally adequate for industrial purposes but the usual seasonal shortage of agricultural labour was experienced at the beginning of the rains. Fifteen stoppages of work occurred during the year; none were of major importance and all were quickly settled. Four trade unions operate in the Protectorate, no new unions having been registered in 1953.

The number of African workers estimated to be absent from the Protectorate in 1953 was 159,000, some 9,000 more than in 1951. Of these 100,000 were estimated to be in Southern Rhodesia, 42,000 in South Africa, 7,000 in Northern Rhodesia and 10,000 in other territories. The number of identity certificates issued for travel abroad during the year was 52,797, compared with 53,471 in 1952. Thus the problem of the absence of large numbers of able-bodied males from the Protectorate, with its attendant consequence of shortage of labour and the disruption of family and tribal life at home, remained acute during the year. Opportunities for remunerative employment are undoubtedly increasing within the Protectorate and, with the growing

competition for labour, wages are on the increase. This, together with the implementation of the various development schemes, will, it is hoped, persuade a greater proportion of the population to seek work at home in future years.

A salary revision scheme for Government Staff was introduced during the year under which the salaries of African Staff were increased by between 50 and 100 per cent. and a number of new and more responsible posts were created. Cost of living allowances are now payable to African employees of Government at rates varying between 10 and 13 per cent. of salary.

The effects of the Inter-territorial Agreement on migrant labour were increasingly noticeable in 1953. Family remittances came back in large numbers; 19,086 first family remittances and 11,722 second family remittances, each of the value of £1, were received during the year and in addition 14,329 deferred payments averaging £2 each were cashed by returning migrant workers. Comparative figures for 1952 were 15,436, 8,062 and 10,535 respectively. Many migrant workers send back sums far in excess of the obligatory family remittances.

The shortage of accommodation during 1953 again meant that much of the building capacity of the Public Works Department was devoted to the construction of staff houses. Twenty-one European, three Asian and 304 African houses were constructed during the year. Other building projects completed, or nearing completion at the end of the year, included the Blantyre/Limbe power station, the Unallocated Stores and Transport Depot at Blantyre, the mental hospital at Zomba, a new post office and a new accounts office at Lilongwe. In addition, work continued on the Dedza Secondary School, the leprosarium near Fort Manning and the new township of Nkata Bay.

Progress in the sphere of African education continued in 1953. The development plan was further implemented and at the end of the year 114 of the 708 assisted African primary schools in the Protectorate were senior primary schools taking pupils to Standard IV or Standard VI, 532 were junior primary schools taking pupils to Standard III and the remaining 62 were village schools with classes up to Standard I.

The African secondary school at Dedza, opened in 1951, functioned satisfactorily during the year. Starting with 20 pupils, by the end of 1953 it had a total enrolment of 105. Unlike the other two secondary schools this school provides both academic and technical courses; in addition, a commercial wing was opened during the year. The school is well equipped and has a highly qualified teaching staff.

It is estimated that about half the Protectorate's children attend school for short periods between the ages of five and eighteen. Only a small minority, however, pass beyond the lowest classes. In 1953, 525 pupils, including 40 girls, passed the Standard VI examination (after eight years of schooling) and there were 84 passes in the Government junior secondary school examination, taken after two years of secondary schooling.

The Jeanes Training Centre was renamed the Government Teacher Training Centre, as its sole function is now the training of teachers. A total of 94 students were attending the centre during the year and of these 78 were taking the course leading to the Higher Grade Certificate. From this, and the ten mission centres, 199 students passed out to join the teaching service.

Age-limits of eight and fourteen years for children entering Sub-Standard A and Standard IV were rigidly adhered to in 1953 and there are encouraging signs that the reasons for these age limits are now appreciated by the majority of the villagers. Adult education was not neglected. Mass literacy drives were organized, an increasing amount of literature was made available by the Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland Joint Publications Bureau, while the weekly publication of "*Msimbi*", a newspaper containing articles both in English and the main vernaculars, served to stimulate an interest in current affairs among an estimated total of 40,000 readers. The Domasi Community Development Scheme continued to include "hedge schools", giving instruction in the three R's to large groups of children and adults who had otherwise received no formal education. Over-age pupils received instruction at "night-schools" in some seven centres in the Protectorate.

Twenty-one university scholarships awarded by Government were held in 1953, seven by Africans, eleven by Europeans and three by Asians. Three of the scholarships awarded by the Secretary of State (under the £1 million Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme) were held by Africans and four by Europeans. Nine scholarships, five given by the Government of India and four by private Asian donors, were held by Africans at Indian universities.

Enrolment at the five European primary schools again increased in 1953 from 401 to 465. Three hundred children were attending school elsewhere in Africa and 32 were taking correspondence courses. At the eight assisted Asian schools there was an enrolment of 685 while at the Government school for children of mixed race there were 117 pupils.

Medical extension work during the year was again directed mainly at encouraging self-help in matters connected with village hygiene and the prevention of disease. The medical survey at Domasi, designed to evolve a method of approach suitable for application in rural areas of the Protectorate, continued; the general survey was completed and was followed by a survey of school children. The system of visiting by hospital assistants and medical aides, attached to rural dispensaries, was further extended and fell into a more definite routine.

Perhaps the commonest diseases are malaria, bilharzia, hookworm and relapsing fever and these continued to levy their toll on the working capacity of the African population. There were no major epidemics during the year. The incidence of small-pox has been greatly reduced since the introduction of organized vaccination campaigns in 1948.

Only six cases were reported in 1953. Three further cases of sleeping sickness occurred in the Chikwawa District. Work on the building of the leprosy settlement near Fort Manning continued and a great stimulus to the control of leprosy was given by a bequest of £220,000 for the purpose of assisting all measures, including research, which will eventually bring leprosy in Nyasaland under control. A detailed survey of the incidence and distribution of leprosy, financed from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds, is to begin in 1954.

Training of African medical staff continued at Zomba and Lilongwe. Five hospital assistants, 25 medical aides, four sanitary assistants and eight Class II midwives qualified at the two training schools. In addition 28 Class III midwives qualified at mission training centres. A new hostel for pupil midwives was opened at Zomba in February and this made additional space available for the other sections of the school.

Two new health centres were opened during the year, at Mitundu in the Lilongwe District and at Mwanza in the Southern Province. This brings the total number of health centres to four, the existing centres being at Kaphuka in the Dedza District and at Salima in the Dowa District. The mental hospital at Zomba was completed with the exception of interior decoration, lighting and services.

The European establishment of the Nyasaland Police at the end of 1953 was 33 gazetted officers and 37 Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors; actual strength at the end of the year amounted to 53. The African establishment was increased to 1,030, actual strength at the end of the year being 987. As a result of the disturbances a Police Mobile Force was created towards the end of the year for the purpose of dealing with situations which require police action at short notice; this largely accounts for the difference between the establishment and the actual strength. Recruitment of special constables proceeded satisfactorily and by the end of the year a total of more than 800 special constables of all races had been recruited.

The number of offences reported to the police increased from 14,860 in 1952 to 16,897 in 1953. Sixty-eight murders were reported as against 62 in 1952. Figures for burglary, theft and arson all showed an increase over 1952, largely as a result of the disturbances.

During 1953 a total of 2,732 persons were committed to the prisons of the Protectorate, an increase of 546 over the 1952 figure. This increase was also largely accounted for by the disturbances and by subsequent extensive police action. The number of recidivists committed to prison during the year was 466, an increase of 153 over the figure for 1952. The three prison farms, two in the Zomba area and one in the Dowa District, continued to function satisfactorily as "open" prisons for first offenders only. The standard of discipline remained high and the prisoners responded well to the system of trust on which the camps are run. A payment scheme for the men at these prison farms, introduced in 1952, has done much to improve the

standard of discipline and of personal endeavour. The Chilwa School for juvenile delinquents made good progress and the number of boys at the school at the end of the year was 31.

Warders' training courses continued at the Central Prison and a total of 77 new recruits were attested during the year. The favourable rates of pay now offered to the staff of the Department, improved as a result of the Government salary revision scheme introduced during the year, meant that there was once again no shortage of applicants for the post of warder.

The Lands Section again directed its activities largely to regularizing past occupation of land by the grant of formal titles, to the improvement of trading layouts and building standards and to the better utilization of land for agricultural purposes.

The Town Planning Section was again engaged mainly on the Blantyre/Limbe Planning Area. Detailed schemes for the high density residential areas in Blantyre and Limbe were approved during the year. The outline planning scheme in respect of Lilongwe was modified and the plan was deposited under the terms of the Ordinance early in 1954. Town planning work was also carried out at Nkata Bay, Mzuzu and Monkey Bay.

The work of the Survey Department was mainly concerned with surveys urgently required in connection with town planning matters. Such surveys were undertaken in the high density residential areas of Blantyre and Limbe and in other parts of the Planning Area; in Lilongwe; and in Nkata Bay, where all the necessary surveys for the planning of the area were completed. In addition, surveys were undertaken both in the Central and Northern Provinces in connection with trading centres and Government reservations around administrative centres.

Air-cover was secured of Mzuzu, the proposed headquarters of the Northern Province, and the ground control survey was completed; plans of the area should be available early in 1954. Throughout the year the Directorate of Colonial Surveys maintained one field party in the territory which continued the observing of the primary triangulation in connection with the aerial survey of the Protectorate.

The Public Relations Department operated two mobile cinema units during the year, one centred at Zomba and the other, purchased in 1953, in the Northern Province. The units spent much of their time on tour and the most popular films continued to be those produced by the Central African Film Unit. The construction of a studio was completed in Zomba for recording live material to be broadcast from Salisbury or Lusaka. After the disturbances short radio programmes were arranged each evening by the Department but these had to be abandoned just before the end of the year. The production of "*Msimbi*", the Government vernacular newspaper, continued and circulation at the end of the year was about 7,500, each paper being read by at least five readers. An innovation was the publication of information bulletins by the Department, containing news and other

factual items of interest. The photographic section added a large number of new negatives to its library and produced enlargements for a wide variety of purposes.

The Nyasaland Stand at the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition in Bulawayo, which ran from May to August, was designed by the Public Relations Department. It contained a number of interesting exhibits, including a contour model of the Protectorate made by the Director of Public Relations. A quantity of Nyasaland stamps were sold at the stand.

The African Protectorate Council met in December. The main item on the agenda was the election of the two specially elected African members of the Federal Assembly. The Council also discussed the submission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies of a memorandum on land matters and the financing of African primary education. Provincial Councils met regularly in all three Provinces during the year and a wide variety of subjects was brought to the notice of Government as a result.

An event of the greatest importance in the development of local government in the territory was the enactment in December of the Local Government (District Councils) Ordinance, which provides for the setting up of statutory multi-racial councils at district level to replace existing non-statutory councils. The new councils will have wide powers and will form effective units of local government; they will not be established in all districts simultaneously but progressively in those districts in which conditions are suitable.

Apart from temporary opposition to Government, caused in several areas by dissatisfaction over the federation issue, most Native Authorities again showed themselves willing and eager to co-operate with Government. There is still much room for improvement, but their efficiency is slowly increasing; too often, however, it depends on the calibre of the Chief himself. It is certainly evident that the vast majority of Native Authorities are now keenly alive to the twin problems of soil conservation and food production. Natural Resources Rules and Orders are invariably supplemented by Native Authority legislation to ensure the early preparation of gardens and the restriction of beer consumption during the vital period of garden preparation. In many cases the Native Authorities afforded all possible assistance in this important sphere against the opposition of their people. Extensive district travelling by the administrative officer, often accompanied by the Chief or one of his advisers, continued to forge strong and invaluable links between Government, Chiefs and people.

Native Courts continued to work well and their decisions are obviously acceptable since very few appeals go to District or Provincial Commissioners. By far the greatest number of cases heard relate to marriage and the payment of compensation in cases of adultery. Although these are strictly civil cases many courts also impose a fine and one Chief remarked that if this were not done the number of cases

of adultery would never be reduced. The African Urban Courts, established in Zomba and Blantyre, are now proving their worth after initial troubles over procedure and jurisdiction had been settled.

A District Commissioner has been described as “ everything from magistrate to midwife ”. In 1953 it continued to be true that in many districts, apart from the work of administration, the duties of district officers included charge of police, prisons, land leases, posts and telecommunications, accounts, judicial work, labour and education and in some districts of agriculture, civil aviation, game control, customs, marketing of native produce, public works and health. In addition, nearly half of every month is spent by administrative officers travelling in their districts, seeing the Chiefs and people, interpreting Government policy and supervising the work of Native Courts and Native Treasuries.

The rate of native tax during 1953 remained at 17s-6d throughout the Protectorate (with the exception of two small islands in the Lake). Five shillings of each tax was credited to Native Treasuries. The total amount collected in tax during the year was £495,292, compared with £460,640 in 1952.

The Domasi District was constituted in 1950 for the inauguration of a comprehensive community development scheme. Assistance from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds covers the capital cost of headquarters and equipment, together with the salaries of most of the staff. In 1953 work continued in the various fields of operation and results so far achieved are described in Part II, Chapter 14 of this Report. The principle of self-help is becoming established and there has been a marked improvement in the attitude of the people to soil conservation, the better use of soil and water supplies and village hygiene. The key to the improvement does, of course, lie in the presence of a comparatively large and efficient team of European and African instructors, representing all the field departments except Forestry, and the resultant personal contact in what is by far the smallest district in area in the Protectorate. This pilot project, which is due to finish at the end of 1954, has already provided a number of useful lessons in Native Administration and other spheres. The Local Government Training School, which was opened at the end of 1952 and is now operated as part of the Community Development Scheme, had an extremely successful year and preliminary reports from districts indicate that the courses are likely to be of great practical benefit to the Native Administration.

The Native Development and Welfare Fund, financed *inter alia* out of the profits of the African Tobacco Board, the Cotton Marketing Board and the Produce Marketing Board, continued to provide funds for local schemes for the benefit of Africans which were beyond the resources of the Native Treasuries. Grants were again made largely on the advice of Provincial and District Development Committees for the provision of such amenities as schools, rest-houses for travellers,

community welfare halls, the improvement of communications and for soil conservation work. At Kota Kota a scheme for supplying water to the African township was completed during the year and at Lilongwe a large and much-needed welfare hall, costing approximately £14,000, was constructed and will be brought into use in 1954. In 1953 grants made from the fund for schemes of local benefit to the African population were estimated at £23,077 for the Northern Province, £24,202 for the Central Province and £31,787 for the Southern Province. In addition, grants made for schemes for the general benefit of Africans in the Protectorate were estimated at £70,515. Loans from the fund were estimated at £31,777.

Steady progress was again made during the year in the resettlement of land acquired by Government as a result of the recommendations of the Abrahams Report and the Land Planning Committee, a total of some 300,000 acres of land having been acquired in the Southern Province for resettlement purposes. This land has been divided into three categories, the first, on which concentrated residential settlement by industrial and commercial workers is possible, the second, a small area unsuited to any appreciable increase in settlement, and the third, some two-thirds of the whole, which lends itself to increased agricultural production and the reception of considerable numbers of new settlers if water and communications are provided. At Chingale, where the settlement station was completed and a market and agricultural staff quarters were erected on the most fertile part of the estate, the reception of immigrants continued steadily. At Magomero the time of the settlement staff was largely devoted to reconnaissance work in the more sparsely populated areas with a view to the selection of residential sites and the demarcation of agricultural holdings; building at the settlement station also continued. The policy adopted on acquired lands has been to concentrate huts as far as possible in the accommodation areas in order to release the available agricultural land for use. Since 1950 Government has succeeded by these means in providing accommodation on these lands for an increase in population from 65,500 to 82,200.

A list of the development schemes in operation during the year and financed by grants from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds is attached as an Appendix to this Part of the Report, together with a statement showing the revenue accruing from the Fund in 1952 and 1953. Progress made during the year, both on the various departmental schemes and on the individual schemes, is described in the relevant sections of this Report.

GRANTS UNDER THE COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT  
AND WELFARE ACTS

	<i>Actual Revenue 1952</i>	<i>Estimate 1953</i>	<i>Actual Revenue 1953</i>	<i>Estimate 1-1-53- 30-6-54</i>
<i>(a) Departmental Schemes</i>	£	£	£	£
Agricultural, Scheme D.1550 .. ..	34,000	34,000	34,000	51,000
Education, Scheme D.1551 .. ..	42,000	42,000	42,000	63,000
Forestry, Scheme D.1552 .. ..	11,000	11,000	5,500	16,000
Water Supplies, Scheme D.1625 .. ..	10,500	10,500	10,500	15,750
Medical, Scheme D.1553 .. ..	35,000	35,000	35,000	28,000
Veterinary, Scheme D.1554 .. ..	11,000	11,000	10,000	16,500
<i>(b) Public Works Schemes</i>				
Road Development, Scheme D.812 .. ..	—	—	187,500	187,500
Nkata Bay - Vipya Road, Scheme D.1895 .. ..	51,539	112,375	26,000	45,000
Mental Hospital, Scheme D.1359 .. ..	20,530	11,003	11,000	18,411
Chileka Airport, Scheme D.738 .. ..	2,400	6,950	2,250	6,950
Technical Education, Scheme D.1672 .. ..	19,200	17,000	22,950	26,000
Lake Port Survey, Scheme D.1945 .. ..	—	10,000	—	11,330
Machinery and Road Plant, Scheme D.1677 .. ..	57,885	—	—	—
Purchase of Road Plant .. ..	—	—	—	59,075
Road Construction Organization .. ..	—	—	—	77,855
African Housing, Scheme D.1391 .. ..	123,670	83,960	89,700	119,690
Supplementary African Housing Scheme .. ..	—	—	—	84,580
African Housing, Police Mobile Reserve .. ..	—	—	—	78,000
Agricultural and Veterinary Training School, Scheme D.2093 .. ..	—	—	—	26,000
Veterinary Training Centres, Scheme D.2047 .. ..	—	—	—	7,400
<i>(c) Aeronautical Schemes</i>				
Meteorological Equipment, Scheme D.1810 .. ..	—	29,045	8,050	29,910
Telecommunications, Schemes D.1483 and D.1482 .. ..	9,350	19,367	6,100	23,452
<i>(d) Central Fund Schemes</i>				
Lilongwe Experimental Station, Scheme R.157 .. ..	5,325	7,797	11,975	17,965
Stored Products Research, Scheme R.437 .. ..	460	481	600	817
Tsetse Research, Scheme R.307 .. ..	5,800	4,645	6,400	6,160
Geological Survey, Scheme D.1191 (E.C.A. D.4) .. ..	1,444	—	—	—
Mineralogical Survey, Scheme D.878 .. ..	6,375	6,541	7,845	17,766
Lake Chilwa Rice Scheme .. ..	—	—	—	16,606
<i>(e) Regional Schemes</i>				
Domasi District Development, Scheme D.846 .. ..	17,500	12,143	10,350	18,565
Lilongwe - Fort Jameson Road, Scheme D.1305 .. ..	—	82,000	—	2,000
<i>(f) Miscellaneous Schemes</i>				
Shire Valley Project Survey, Scheme D.1702 .. ..	83,765	60,000	49,750	88,274
Forestry Equipment, Scheme D.1900 .. ..	—	17,630	—	18,110
Supplementary Forestry Equipment Scheme .. ..	—	—	—	14,679
Forestry Depot, Scheme D.1944 .. ..	—	14,400	5,000	16,320
Mudi Dam Afforestation, Scheme D.1899 .. ..	—	8,819	3,100	11,908
Junior Trade School, Mpemba, Scheme D.2084 .. ..	—	—	—	7,995

In addition to the above, two schemes financed from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds are administered by Northern Rhodesia on behalf of both territories. These cover the CENTRAL AFRICAN BROADCASTING STATION at Lusaka and the JOINT FISHERIES RESEARCH SCHEME.

## PART II

### Chapter I. Population

The last census of the African population in Nyasaland was taken in 1945. All the field work was of necessity done by African enumerators with little supervision and the census was not claimed to be any more than a useful and fairly accurate estimate of the African population. Previous censuses were taken in 1921, 1926 and 1931 while annual population estimates, largely based on the tax registers, are available dating back to 1901. The substantial fluctuations which occur from year to year indicate that these annual estimates are not very reliable.

A system of recording simple vital statistics was introduced in 1947. It is at present restricted to recording African births and deaths, district by district. Individual details are not recorded, nor are any certificates issued. Reliance has to be placed on the African village headman whose duty it is to collect such information in respect of his village for transmission to the Native Authority and on occasion the system breaks down. The registration of African customary marriages is carried out in almost all parts of the Protectorate, but the data available is by no means complete, while details of the birth, death and infant mortality rates are unavailable and likely to remain so for some time to come.

In the conditions outlined above it is only possible to speak in general terms of African population trends. The population is increasing steadily, being estimated at the end of 1953 to be 2,501,010 compared with 2,453,506 at the end of 1952. Between 1921 and 1931 the African population had increased by one-third and the 1945 census figures showed an increase of rather more than one-third on the 1931 figures. Thus the estimated African population had very nearly doubled in 25 years, but a considerable proportion of this increase must be attributed to immigration into the Southern Province from Portuguese East Africa.

The number of men estimated to be absent from the Protectorate during 1953 was 159,000, an increase of 9,000 over 1952, the majority being in Southern Rhodesia. A large percentage of these absentees, particularly those in the Rhodesias, return regularly to their homes and remain in close touch with Nyasaland.

The European and Asian populations continued to increase. Details of European births and deaths have been kept since 1901, and since 1920 immigration and emigration statistics in respect of Europeans and Asians have been compiled. Registration of all non-African births and deaths is compulsory. The relatively small size of the

European population enables accurate estimates to be made. The European population remained fairly static immediately before and during the war. In 1931 it stood at 1,975 and in 1945 at 1,948. Since the war, the population has increased rapidly owing to the considerable expansion of the activities of both Government and commercial concerns and to the re-establishment of staffs depleted during the war years. The implementation of the Development Plan alone increased Government's establishment of European personnel by 504 in the six post-war years and in 1953 the European population was estimated at 4,387. The figure for 1952 was 4,534. It is not possible to estimate the numbers in the various age groups, but the European population is a relatively young one. Retirement elsewhere after service in the Protectorate is still the rule, although exceptions are becoming more numerous.

The Asian population, maintaining a consistently higher birth-rate, increased from 1,573 in 1931 to 2,804 in 1945 and in 1953 was estimated to be 6,178. The 1952 figure was 5,745. By occupation the majority of the men are traders and about one-third are now Nyasaland born.

## Chapter 2. Occupations, Wages and Labour Organization

### EMPLOYMENT

The main preoccupation of the Nyasaland African remains his own village garden where he grows most, if not all, of his own and his family's food requirements and from which he is only tempted to seek work elsewhere when money is required for a particular purpose, such as tax payment, the settlement of a legal debt or the purchase of some simple requirement at a store. Further, the high prices now offering for agricultural produce make it possible for a moderately efficient farmer, without leaving his land, to earn much more during the course of a year than he could hope to do in the lower grades of paid employment.

No statistics are available of the numbers thus employed in subsistence agriculture but the approximate numbers engaged during 1953 in tobacco and cotton production on African trust land were 66,586 and 47,277 respectively. It must be remembered that the production of these crops is largely a family affair and that these figures take no account of wives and children who may, and usually do, assist in the agricultural operations.

The principal industries in Nyasaland are tobacco growing, grading and packing, tea growing and manufacture, tung production, building and general contracting, transport, engineering, wholesale and retail trading and general farming. The numbers of Africans employed in industry at the peak periods are approximately:—

<i>Industry</i>						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Young Persons</i>
Tea	..	..	..	..	..	30,000	1,000	9,000
Tobacco	..	..	..	..	..	12,000	200	5,000
Tung	..	..	..	..	..	2,000	—	700
Farming, general	..	..	..	..	..	6,000	300	2,500
Building, brick-making and contracting	..	..	..	..	..	4,000	—	300
Trading	..	..	..	..	..	1,700	—	100
Transport	..	..	..	..	..	5,800	—	—
Light industry	..	..	..	..	..	1,400	—	—
Government services	..	..	..	..	..	14,500	—	250
Local Government services	..	..	..	..	..	3,900	—	450
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	3,000	—	200
TOTAL ..						84,300	1,500	18,500

NOTES: (i) Males=Male over 18 years of age, *i.e.* adults liable to pay tax.

- (ii) Female=Women over 18 years of age.  
Young Persons=Persons of either sex between 14 and 18 years of age.
- (iii) Transport includes railways, roads and Lake transport.
- (iv) Of the males shown as employed for wages it is estimated that 10,000 are clerical workers, shop assistants and the like, 11,000 are artisans and the balance of about 63,000 are unskilled and semi-skilled labour.
- (v) Another large group known to be in paid employment but not included in the above table is that of domestic servants, mostly males, who are estimated at about 10,000.

In the conditions described it will be seen that unemployment is by no means the problem it is in more industrialized countries and that the average Nyasaland African is not in any real sense a wage-earner. Limited cash requirements mean that the usual economic incentives do not operate in Nyasaland. Moreover, the African places a high value on leisure; he is inclined to work sporadically when it suits him and for limited purposes of his own. Incentives to work locally are not high; consumer goods are often in short supply; family ties are demanding and, casual work being everywhere plentiful, there remains little inducement to engage in permanent employment with its demands of efficiency and regular attendance. The poor diet of the African worker and the lack of a responsible African supervisory class are further obstacles to obtaining an efficient labour force.

An additional factor of major importance in relation to the supply of labour in Nyasaland is the low wage rate offered in this country in comparison with those of adjoining territories. This problem is described more fully below.

Being mainly an agricultural country the demand for labour is naturally largely seasonal but, since the various seasons for planting, processing of crops, grading of tobacco, constructional works, etc. are spread over the year, there is no real dead season in respect of employment. Less labour than normal, however, offers for work at the beginning of the rains, usually in November, owing to the preoccupation of Africans with garden preparation at that time. The numbers in employment at the beginning of the rains are usually about a third lower than at the peak of the employment period. The general shortage of skilled and semi-skilled labour continues, affecting particularly the building and constructional trades.

### MIGRANT LABOUR

As mentioned above, wage rates in Nyasaland, which is an agricultural country, are low compared with those current in the more highly industrialized countries of Southern Rhodesia and the Union of South Africa where constantly expanding mining and other industries need more and more labour and can afford, and are prepared to pay, high

wages to attract it. In an effort to counteract the attraction of higher wages abroad and to maintain an adequate supply of labour in the country, local employers are paying increasing attention to improved amenities for their labour. These usually take the form of better housing, the provision of free mid-day meals for employees, recreational facilities, bonuses for regular attendance and in many cases an increase in basic wages.

Nyasaland has for many years contributed substantially to the labour force in adjoining territories and in the Union of South Africa. Away from home the Nyasalander has an excellent reputation and a range of employment extending from unskilled labour to the highest posts which local conditions permit.

So long as the level of wages offering in other countries remains higher than that prevailing at home, the more ambitious and energetic African will always be tempted to seek employment abroad. Away from home his family and tribal commitments are not nearly so heavy and he is thus able to save more money, another factor militating towards an increasing exodus of able-bodied males. Nor can the inevitable lure of strange countries be left out of account.

Offsetting to some extent the outward flow of labour is the growing competition within the Protectorate, leading to an increase in wage rates and greater opportunities for remunerative employment at home resulting from the various development schemes as well as improved conditions and increased training facilities now provided by a number of Government departments, notably the Police, Prisons, Medical, Posts and Telecommunications, Agricultural and Forestry Departments.

Large scale emigration eventually results in the disintegration of family life and in a decaying tribal structure; and once traditional social sanctions disappear they are difficult to replace. Out of an approximate 423,600 able-bodied males it is estimated that some 159,000 were absent from the Protectorate in 1953, an increase over 1952 of 9,000. Of this total 100,000 were estimated to be in Southern Rhodesia, 42,000 in the Union of South Africa, 7,000 in Northern Rhodesia and 10,000 in other territories.

The protection of the contracted worker and the interests of his family, are secured by a system of carefully controlled recruitment. The Witwatersrand Native Labour Association is the only organization permitted to recruit Nyasalanders for work in South Africa. The Association engages labour for employment on the Rand and Orange Free State gold mines and during 1953 was allowed a quota of 10,000 as the maximum number to be employed on the mines at any one time. At the end of 1953 the number thus employed was 6,974 compared with 6,501 at the end of 1952 during which year the quota was 7,000.

Apart from two companies, who are permitted to recruit small numbers of Nyasalanders for short seasonal employment, recruitment

for work in Southern Rhodesia is in the hands of the Rhodesia Native Labour Supply Commission. During 1953 the Commission was allowed a quota of 8,000 recruits of whom 6,978 were actually engaged during the year, compared with 4,654 in 1954.

Both the above organizations recruit under a Governor's Permit which is renewed annually, their quotas of recruits and the areas from which recruits may be taken being determined by factors which include local labour requirements and the local food supply situation. The planting season is normally a closed season for recruiting. At other times of the year recruits leave the Protectorate under a contract which provides *inter alia* for deferred pay and family remittances while the worker is away and for his repatriation to the place of engagement on completion of his contract.

Although the number of labourers proceeding abroad under contract is large, the majority prefer to go uncovenanted. The greatest number of these migrants go to Southern Rhodesia, for the Nyasaland is a prohibited immigrant into the Union of South Africa, save in respect of defined areas where he may go for work under a temporary permit valid for six months in the first instance.

In 1949 a Migrant Labour Agreement was concluded between the Central African territories in order to protect the interests of those who proceed abroad uncontrolled. Under the Agreement the migrant worker has to return home after two years abroad and a monthly deduction has to be made from his wages, part of which is paid back to him on his return in the form of deferred pay and part remitted by his employer to his home district where it is paid over to nominated dependants. Provision is also made for free transport to Southern Rhodesia and back to Nyasaland on his repatriation. In order to avoid excessive disintegration of the family, and the difficulties experienced by unsupported women and children who have to fend for themselves while their men-folk are away, migrant labourers are encouraged either to take their families with them to the Rhodesias or to send for them when they themselves are established in their work. In these cases the worker is not bound by the two-year limit and increasing numbers of families are being reunited in this way. The purpose of the Agreement is to mitigate, where possible, the economic and social evils which attend large scale migration.

Family remittances came back to Nyasaland in increasing numbers during 1953 when 19,086 first family remittances and 11,722 second family remittances were received (the figures for 1952 were 15,436 and 8,062 respectively) each of the value of £1. In addition 14,329 deferred payments, averaging £2 each, were cashed by returning migrant workers. This makes a total of 30,808 remittances at £1 and 14,329 deferred payments of approximately £2—some £59,466—received in Nyasaland from migrant workers in the Rhodesias during the year. A further £135,181 was received in Nyasaland from Africans recruited by the two organizations mentioned above while postal and money orders

from Southern Rhodesia and South Africa (most of which come from Africans) amounted to £551,875 and remittances sent through the Nyasaland Government Representatives in Salisbury and Johannesburg to £33,529. It will thus be seen that a total of more than three-quarters of a million pounds was received in the country during the year from migrant workers abroad.

No African may leave the Protectorate without an identity certificate. Before issuing such certificate, the District Commissioner or other authorized issuing officer must be satisfied that the applicant is not leaving the Protectorate to evade satisfaction of just debts or other legal obligations. These latter, often include Native Authority Orders to plant gardens and to make provision for dependants. The issuing officer must also be satisfied that the applicant has normally resided in the Protectorate for a continuous period of not less than six months prior to his application.

The number of identity certificates issued annually for travel abroad remained fairly constant for several years prior to 1950 but since that date has increased sharply. This is shown by the following figures:

<i>Country of Destination</i>	<i>Average</i>			
	1946-50	1951	1952	1953
Southern Rhodesia ..	22,853	30,235	41,289	39,975
Northern Rhodesia ..	1,309	2,882	2,971	3,555
South Africa ..	9,295	9,307	8,819	7,526
Other territories ..	395	277	392	1,741
TOTAL ..	<u>33,852</u>	<u>42,701</u>	<u>53,471</u>	<u>52,797</u>

Nyasaland recognizes its responsibility for those of its people who emigrate and the Protectorate Government maintains representatives in Johannesburg and Salisbury, both being experienced officers of the Administration. During 1953 the work of these officers continued to increase in connection with labour problems. Again they visited many centres of employment in the territories in which they were engaged and provided Government with regular reports on the conditions obtaining there. Perhaps the most important of their duties is to act as intermediaries for domestic enquiries by the migrant worker or by his family left in Nyasaland. In this respect they fulfil abroad the functions of a District Commissioner within the Protectorate and supply a much felt need on the part of exiled Nyasalanders. Another valuable link between the migrant worker and his home is provided by the missionary societies who keep in touch with their adherents and maintain, with assistance from public funds, two European labour chaplains. A number of former missionaries and Nyasaland civil servants, retired to the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, give voluntary assistance in a similar way. The labour chaplains

travel widely, ministering to the spiritual needs of those abroad and doing invaluable work to maintain links with Nyasaland. They also provide useful information to Government on labour conditions generally.

### WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Wages in general received a considerable increase during 1953. Under the Government salary revision scheme salaries of African Staff such as clerks, artisans and subordinate employees were increased by between 50 and 100 per cent. and a number of new and more responsible posts were created.

The Government rates for unskilled casual labour were increased from 10d to 1s-4d per day in townships and from 10d to 1s per day in rural areas; and for semi-skilled labour from 1s-6d to 2s per day in townships and from 1s-6d to 1s-9d per day in rural areas. Private employers in general also increased their rates for corresponding categories of employees. For instance, clerks in private employment received an average increase of 15s per month, bus-conductors of £1 per month, mechanics of 15s per month and messengers of £1 per month.

Wages of agricultural workers are usually paid by the 30-day ticket, with a weekly cash payment in lieu of rations. Rates for unskilled labourers vary from 17s-6d per ticket with 1s-6d per week food allowance to 27s-6d per ticket with 2s per week food allowance. A Minimum Wage Order prescribes 17s-6d as the minimum wage for an adult worker exclusive of food or cash allowance in lieu thereof. Overtime is not normally worked in agriculture but, if required, is usually paid for either by marking the ticket for two days' work or by a cash payment at the time. An attendance bonus of 3d to 6d per week is now frequently paid by employers to encourage regular attendance at work. Housing must be provided free for those unable to return home at the end of the day's work and either rations must be provided free or a cash allowance given in lieu. The choice rests with the worker and normally cash is preferred unless food is short in the villages. Hours of work in agriculture vary from six to ten hours a day though wherever possible employers arrange for task work to be performed.

In industry higher wages are paid. An Order made under the Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance during the year increased the minimum wage payable to unskilled male African employees in townships from 7d per day, exclusive of food or cash allowance, to an inclusive rate of 1s-4d per day. If rations, adequate to a man's daily needs, are supplied by the employer he may deduct 5d per day from this wage or, if a hot meal alone is supplied, 2d per day. It is obligatory to provide housing for the worker who is unable to return home at the end of a day's work. The table overleaf shows the hours normally worked in industry as well as the average amounts earned daily by the various classes of employees.

AVERAGE HOURS OF WORK AND DAILY RATES OF WAGES

Industry	Hours of work	Unskilled Employees	Semi-skilled Employees	Skilled Employees	Captaos	Drivers	Clerks
CENTRAL AND NORTHERN PROVINCES:							
Tobacco Grading ..	6-9*	s d 1 1	s d 1 5	s d 1 9	s d 3 2	s d —	s d 3 11½
Clothing Manufacture ..	7-8*	1 4	—	3 1	—	4 0	—
Mining (open cast) ..	8	1 0	1 8	2 0½	2 1½	—	1 4
SOUTHERN PROVINCE:							
Tobacco Grading ..	6-8*	1 4	—	1 10½	3 3	—	4 2
Clothing Manufacture ..	7-8*	1 5½	1 11	3 9	—	—	3 8½
Tea Manufacture ..	8	1 1	1 2	2 5	2 11	2 11	3 2
Cigarette Manufacture ..	9†	1 8	2 3	3 10	4 8	5 2	3 8
Soap Manufacture ..	8½	1 8	2 5	—	3 6	5 0	2 8
Forestry ..	8	1 8	—	2 2	3 11	—	—
Saw-milling ..	8	1 4	1 8	3 8	3 6	—	3 5
Building ..	8	1 3	1 9	3 2	2 11	3 7	3 1
Tung Manufacture ..	8	1 2	1 7	2 2½	2 9½	—	—
Publishing, etc. ..	7	1 11½	4 6	6 9	16 1	—	5 8

\* Hours of work are based on tasks.

† Five-day week worked.

The wages of the junior grades of domestic servants averaged between 17s-6d and 25s per month, while senior grades averaged between 25s and 60s per month. In addition, a weekly food allowance is given ranging between 1s-6d in outlying districts and 3s-6d in townships. Free quarters and uniforms are invariably provided and, in some cases, fuel as well. Domestic servants, though they work irregular hours, have on the whole an easy time as a result of the system of specialization copied in the early days from similar conditions in India. Most employers grant their servants regular time off and they can always expect long holidays when their employers take leave overseas.

In all occupations Sunday is normally a day of rest and when employees are required to work on Sundays or public holidays payment is made at the rate of time and a half to double time, according to the custom prevailing in the particular area. No night work is performed except in cases of emergency.

#### COST OF LIVING

The cost of living has continued to rise for all classes. Adequate statistical machinery is not, however, available for the compilation of price indices. Such indices are, in any case, apt to be misleading when applied to the cost of African foodstuffs, owing to the great variety of units and measures used in inter-African sales. Sample prices of a few of the principal foodstuffs are:—

	<i>Country Markets</i>	<i>Township Areas</i>
Meat .. ..	9d/10d per lb.	1s/1s-3d per lb.
Fish .. ..	9d/1s each	6d/1s each
Eggs .. ..	1s per dozen	1s-6d per dozen
Milk (condensed) ..	1s-10d per tin	2s per tin
Bread .. ..	10d/1s per loaf	10d/1s per loaf
Sugar .. ..	9d per lb.	8d/9d per lb.
Tea .. ..	3s-4d per lb.	3s-4d per lb.
Beans .. ..	2d/3d per lib.	3d/4d per lb.
Maize flour .. ..	2d/3d per lb.	2½d/3½d per lb.
Rice .. ..	7¾d/9d per lb.	6d/8d per lb.

Cost of living allowances were paid to African employees of Government at rates varying between 10 and 13 per cent. of basic salary. In industry allowance for the increase in the cost of living has in most cases been incorporated in basic salaries. As the African worker is often self-sufficient as regards basic foodstuffs it is difficult to say how far the rising cost of living adversely affects him and the real value of any allowances and increases in salary granted is undoubtedly greater than would appear. Such increases as have been granted have not led to any increase in the number of hours worked,

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The establishment of the Labour Department during the year comprised nine Europeans, 60 African clerks and 24 messengers and caretakers. Labour officers were posted at Blantyre (Southern Province) and Lilongwe (Central and Northern Provinces) in addition to the headquarters staff at Zomba, and the two officers seconded from the Provincial and District Administration, stationed at Salisbury and Johannesburg. African labour clerks were stationed at all district headquarters, their principal duties being the issue of identity certificates and workbooks to migrant workers proceeding abroad, the payment of remittances and deferred pay under the migrant labour workbook scheme, the preparation of statistical returns and the recording of claims under workmen's compensation legislation.

The Factories Inspector and his African Staff were transferred from the Public Works Department to the Labour Department during the year.

## INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

As has been stated earlier, agricultural or semi-agricultural pursuits absorb the great majority of Nyasaland's unskilled labour force. Only a small proportion of the total are dependent solely on their wages. If their work or their treatment is not to their liking they return to their villages or move on elsewhere; there is no lack of opportunity for the worker, whether skilled or unskilled, since demand greatly exceeds supply. Under these conditions there is little incentive to trade-unionism and it is only in the relatively few non-agricultural undertakings such as transport and Government service that any tendency towards organization is emerging.

Legal machinery for the settlement of disputes is provided by the Trade Disputes (Arbitration and Settlement) Ordinance enacted during 1952. This provides for conciliation by the Labour Department in the event of trade disputes arising. Should this fail, provision is made for arbitration, voluntary in the case of ordinary trade disputes, compulsory in the case of certain services scheduled as essential. Strikes or lockouts in such essential services are illegal either before or during conciliation or arbitration.

Four trade unions are registered under the Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Ordinance. These are:—

(i) The Nyasaland African Motor Transport Workers' Association, registered in April, 1949, which had an approximate membership in 1953 of 750;

(ii) The Nyasaland Employers' Association (formerly known as the Nyasaland Employers' (Motor Transport and Traders) Association), registered in August, 1949, which had an approximate membership in 1953 of 25;

(iii) The Nyasaland Railways Asian Union, registered in June, 1950, which had an approximate membership in 1953 of 110;

(iv) The Commercial African Employees' Trade Union, registered in September, 1952, which had an approximate membership in 1953 of 50.

The scope of the Nyasaland Employers' Association was enlarged during the year to make possible negotiations with the recently formed Commercial African Employees' Trade Union as well as the Motor Transport Workers' Association. The two African unions cover motor transport workers and non-manual and clerical workers in commercial and professional undertakings, chiefly in Blantyre. Neither of the organizations can be described as in any way fully representative. The majority of workers are entirely unorganized, thus it has not been possible to set up formal machinery between employers and workers for collective bargaining and negotiation. Industrial relations, however, in spite of minor politically inspired disturbances in connection with Federation, have continued to be generally good.

To provide opportunities for the ventilation of any grievances that may arise and to try to infuse into the workers some personal interest in their affairs, some of the more progressive employers have established works committees. These are a source of satisfaction to the African worker and are reported by the employers themselves to be serving a useful purpose. Encouragement in the formation of these committees is given by the Labour Department and the system has been adopted by the Nyasaland Railways, Imperial Tobacco Company and such Government departments as the Public Works, Posts and Telecommunications and Printing Departments. The African Civil Servants' Association negotiates with Government on matters affecting the conditions of the African Civil Service.

Standing Labour Advisory Boards function in each Province. Membership of the Boards includes representatives of Government, of employers and of African labour. All Provincial labour matters, including wage rates, conditions of employment and industrial relations come within their purview and it is their duty to advise Government on such matters. They also consider and advise on any matters concerning labour, including existing and proposed legislation, which may be referred to them by Government or by the Commissioner for Labour.

Thus machinery exists for the settlement of industrial disputes although during 1953 there were none of any great consequence. If the Nyasaland worker is dissatisfied with his pay or treatment he is after all in the supreme position of being able to move elsewhere in the certainty of finding other work. Under such conditions strikes and the machinery are, therefore largely superfluous. Fifteen stoppages of work, involving a loss of 2,485 man days, took place in 1953, compared with six in 1952. The majority occurred during the adjustment of wage rates, which took place during the year and were quickly settled. Six occurred in the tobacco and tea industries, two in Government departments, two in contracting firms and the others in a town council,

a market garden industry, a maize farm, a saw-mill and a forestry nursery. Twelve concerned wages and conditions of employment, two, the dismissal of employees and one the use of company land by employees. The majority were settled the same or the following day and only one lasted more than three days.

### LABOUR LEGISLATION

Three Ordinances affecting labour were enacted during the year, the only one of interest being the Native Labour (Amendment) Ordinance which removes from employers the obligation to supply food or make payment in lieu to those employees to whom a consolidated wage is paid.

In addition, a considerable amount of subsidiary legislation affecting labour was enacted, the most important being an Order applying the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance to every form of employment in the Protectorate, except domestic servants employed otherwise than in hotels, boarding-houses, clubs, etc.; and an Order providing that the consolidated wage for unskilled African male labourers within townships should be 1s-4d but that an employer who provides proper food may deduct 5d and an employer who provides a mid-day meal only may deduct 2d per day.

Close seasons for the recruitment of labour for work abroad were declared between 15th November, 1953, and 15th February, 1954, in the Central and Northern Provinces and between 1st October, 1953, and 31st December, 1953, in the Southern Province.

### SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

The Factories Inspector and his clerical staff were transferred from the Public Works Department to the Labour Department during the year.

Once again factory legislation operated smoothly and no cases were brought against occupiers for contravention of the Factories and Machinery Rules, made under the Factories Ordinance. Twenty-five accidents were reported to the Factories Board during the year but of these six were outside the scope of the Ordinance. As usual the majority of accidents (14) were reported from tea factories. Of the 19 accidents dealt with by the Board only two could have been prevented by the use of additional safety precautions and the occupiers were instructed to take the necessary measures. The other accidents resulted from carelessness or failure to carry out instructions.

Seventy claims for workmen's compensation were handled during the year. Of these, 15 related to fatal injury, 24 to serious injury and 31 to other injuries. The total amount paid in claims was £1,538.

Sanitary facilities in many factories improved greatly during the year and some firms now provide water-borne sanitation instead of pit

latrines. In the sphere of housing of labour many employers continued to maintain their own workers' settlements, which often compare favourably with those in neighbouring territories. In the Southern Province the Imperial Tobacco Company are in the process of laying out their African Staff quarters in the form of a model village with excellent amenities and sanitation. They have also built a modern dining-hall for their employees with up-to-date kitchens for the provision of mid-day meals. Several employers in outlying areas have now purchased cinematograph projectors and give regular shows to their employees. These are very much appreciated.

There is no legislation providing for insurance against sickness and old age but all employers of African labour are required to provide medical attention for their employees when needed. A number of commercial firms have their own dispensaries and in some cases the services of a resident doctor, hospital assistant or medical aide are provided. Treatment of Africans in Government hospitals and dispensaries is free of charge. Long service is often rewarded by the payment of a gratuity or small pension on retirement. Arrangements can be made for gratuities to be paid into the Post Office Savings Bank and for periodic withdrawals to be made at regular intervals until the capital is exhausted. Tax exemption is granted, either temporarily or for life according to the circumstances of the case, to elderly or infirm Africans who are without means to pay, while provision is made annually in the Protectorate estimates for the relief of the needy, irrespective of race.

#### VOCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

There is a severe shortage of artisans and craftsmen in Nyasaland and, with the growing demand for qualified men, the facilities for technical education have for some time been recognized as inadequate. It was partly for this reason that the Dedza Secondary School, with its technical wing, was opened in 1951. In 1953 plans were approved and money was provided from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund for the establishment of a trade school at Mpemba in the Southern Province. Courses in the first instance will be for carpenter/joiners and bricklayer/plasterers and will be of three years' duration, followed by a further two years "on training", making together the usual apprenticeship period of five years. The final output of the school will be about 24 per year and those completing the course will be expected to pass the Standard I Trade Test. A Principal was appointed to the school and arrived towards the end of the year. In addition, the White Fathers' Mission propose to establish an artisan training centre at Nkata Bay, in the Northern Province, and during the year they took over for the purpose workshops and accommodation vacated by the Colonial Development Corporation.

Apart from technical and vocational schools, various Government departments run their own training schemes. These are described in the appropriate sections of this Report and are summarized below:—

<i>Department</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Under training in 1953</i>	<i>Trained in 1953</i>
Agriculture .. ..	Instructors	28	23
Medical .. ..	Hospital assistants	6	5
	Medical aides	87	25
	Sanitary assistants	12	4
	Midwives	18	8
	Laboratory assistants	3	—
Posts and Telecommunications .. ..	Engineering staff	20	20
	Postal staff	10	10
Prisons .. ..	Probationer warders	16	16
Veterinary .. ..	Instructors	10	—
Forestry .. ..	Foresters	15	15

In addition, the new Police training school, which now has accommodation for 84 men, operated throughout the year and the Public Works and Survey Departments continued to give informal instruction and guidance on actual works, trainees working with qualified artisans. A small number of apprentices were indentured to the Government Printer.

No form of training in industry has yet been developed in the Protectorate.

## Chapter 3. Public Finance and Taxation

### REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The Protectorate's financial year will in future, instead of corresponding with the calendar year, run from 1st July to 30th June to correspond with the financial year adopted by the Federal Government. In order to effect the transition, extended estimates were prepared in 1953 to cover the period 1st January, 1953, to 30th June, 1954, and a new financial year will begin on 1st July, 1954.

Comparative total figure for revenue and expenditure in 1952 and 1953 are:—

	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	£	£
1952 Actual .. ..	3,949,208	3,904,596
1953 Actual .. ..	4,894,613	4,424,804

The main heads of Revenue and Expenditure are as follows:—

REVENUE	<i>Actual</i> 1949	<i>Actual</i> 1950	<i>Actual</i> 1951	<i>Actual</i> 1952	<i>Actual</i> 1953
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs .. ..	893,573	1,149,907	1,113,094	1,201,469	1,248,337
Taxes, Licences, etc. ..	941,267	1,186,393	1,367,962	1,429,157	1,388,024
Fees of Court, etc. ..	63,506	106,235	93,711	181,820	1,029,111
Posts and Telecom- munications ..	85,085	80,588	112,605	134,271	190,451
Electrical Services ..	—	—	19,480	17,408	23,318
Rents .. ..	35,090	41,529	44,485	52,313	58,702
Interest (Part 1) ..	14,465	17,655	21,651	26,762	172,597
Miscellaneous ..	150,450	162,141	337,029	201,122	138,625
Forestry .. ..	—	—	—	—	38,491
<b>TOTAL ORDINARY REVENUE ..</b>	<b>2,183,436</b>	<b>2,744,448</b>	<b>3,110,017</b>	<b>3,244,322</b>	<b>4,287,656</b>
Colonial Development and Welfare Grants ..	209,463	545,755	523,848	519,641	555,251
Interest (Part 2) ..	150,704	205,311	189,976	133,539	—
Trans-Zambesia Railway Debenture Interest ..	44,062	50,229	41,760	51,706	51,706
<b>TOTAL REVENUE ..</b>	<b>2,587,665</b>	<b>3,545,763</b>	<b>3,865,601</b>	<b>3,949,208</b>	<b>4,894,613</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Agriculture, Forestry, Veterinary ..	232,801	266,554	370,400	358,400	389,758
Education .. ..	160,669	184,579	236,131	246,449	296,867
Medical .. ..	163,321	167,570	224,664	232,586	251,717
Provincial and District Administration ..	112,756	133,429	154,289	157,189	180,052
Public Works Depart- ment .. ..	891,178	1,178,623	1,492,601	1,145,251	799,485
Public Debt Charges ..	205,395	203,923	203,923	161,806	213,716
Police and Prisons ..	114,257	156,105	163,276	175,035	242,500
Post Office .. ..	84,611	100,083	107,196	137,474	184,633
Other Services ..	780,307	1,207,329	1,078,430	1,290,406	1,866,076
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2,745,295</b>	<b>3,598,195</b>	<b>4,030,910</b>	<b>3,904,596</b>	<b>4,424,804</b>

The actual revenue for 1953 at £4,894,613 is an increase of £704,102 over the revised estimate at £4,190,511. Actual expenditure at £4,424,804 is an increase of £227,447 over the revised estimate at £4,197,357. These figures transform an estimated deficit of £6,846 into an actual surplus of £469,809 on the year's working. This alteration has taken place partly as a result of substantial increases in customs and income tax revenue over the estimate and partly as a result of under-expenditure on the Public Works Extraordinary programme for 1953. The increase in customs revenue is £192,000 and the decrease in Public Works Extraordinary expenditure is £280,000 and these two factors alone improve the budgetary position to the extent of £472,000.

A statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December, 1953, is included as an Appendix to this Chapter.

## PUBLIC DEBT

The Public Debt amounts to £4,970,000 made up as follows:—

East African Guaranteed Loan	..	3%	1954/74	..	£1,570,000
Development Loan	..	4½%	1971/78	..	£2,060,000
H.M.G. Interest free loan	..	—		..	£1,340,000

## MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

The main heads of taxation and the yield from each were as follows:—

		Actual 1949	Actual 1950	Actual 1951	Actual 1952	Actual 1953
		£	£	£	£	£
Import duties	.. ..	581,027	760,102	685,485	865,095	946,564
Export duties	.. ..	274,818	349,771	381,391	287,660	240,183
Excise duties	.. ..	37,728	40,034	46,218	48,714	61,590
Fines	.. ..	7,617	7,709	7,981	4,815	7,120
Native tax	.. ..	246,046	295,783	439,842	460,640	495,292
Income tax	.. ..	586,314	770,641	741,449	796,943	716,091
Non-Native poll tax	.. ..	14,315	16,714	18,215	19,556	20,213
Estate duties	.. ..	10,363	13,644	68,590	46,115	22,605
Stamp duties	.. ..	14,842	13,473	10,361	10,088	14,998
<i>Licences</i>						
Arms and ammunition	.. ..	620	583	680	950	5,390
Bankers	.. ..	125	120	125	215	130
Bicycles	.. ..	6,077	7,170	16,711	19,452	24,292
Game	.. ..	1,359	1,405	1,805	2,067	2,400
Liquor	.. ..	919	1,166	1,368	1,626	1,987
Miscellaneous	.. ..	809	912	819	1,130	789
Motor vehicles	.. ..	22,114	26,887	30,793	34,659	36,637
Trading	.. ..	26,939	27,956	29,146	30,836	35,028

With effect from 1st April, 1954, the Federal Government assumed responsibility for legislation dealing with import duties, export duties and excise duties. The information given under these headings below is therefore only applicable prior to that date.

*Import Duties*

Nyasaland, being within the region covered by the Congo Basin Treaties and the Convention of St. Germain-en-Laye, 1919, could not grant preference to any country and its customs tariff therefore applied equally to all imports irrespective of country of origin.

The main revenue producing items in the tariff paid a specific duty and included cotton piece-goods, liquor, tobacco, matches, vehicles, bicycles, petrol and fuel oil. *Ad valorem* duty was levied on the c.i.f. Beira basis; goods from contiguous territories were, however, assessed on the cost at the place of despatch. Among articles accorded free entry were machinery, refrigerators, tractors, fertilizers, building materials, medicines and provisions; *bona fide* personal baggage was also admitted free of duty. Revenue from import duties in 1953 was £946,564, compared with revenue in 1952 of £865,095.

Among dutiable articles were the following:—

Salt .. .. .	60s-0d per ton
Sugar .. .. .	40s-0d per ton
Cigarettes .. .. .	17s-6d per lb.
Tobacco, manufactured.. .. .	12s-0d per lb.
Brandy .. .. .	120s-0d per proof gall.
Whisky, gin and rum .. .. .	100s-0d per proof gall.
Carpets .. .. .	33½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Cotton piece-goods .. .. .	3d or 6d per yard
Silk piece-goods .. .. .	25 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Artificial silk piece-goods .. .. .	6d per yard
Bicycles .. .. .	20s-0d each
Cutlery .. .. .	25 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Vehicles .. .. .	35s to 65s per horse-power
Sewing machines .. .. .	30s and 40s each
Typewriters .. .. .	25 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Wirelesses .. .. .	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Musical instruments .. .. .	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Glassware .. .. .	25 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Petrol and oil .. .. .	5d per gall.
Soap .. .. .	9s-0d per cwt. or 20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Boots and shoes .. .. .	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Stationery .. .. .	20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Perfumery .. .. .	50 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Firearms .. .. .	25 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .

### *Export Duties and Cesses*

Cesses are applied to the export of tea (1s-4d per 100 lbs. or part thereof), tobacco (1½d per 100 lbs. or part thereof) and tung oil (£2-10s per long ton). The proceeds are credited to separate funds and are devoted to the development and benefit of the tea, tobacco and tung industries through the medium of the Tea Association, the Tobacco Association and the Tung Board.

Export duty was, during 1953, levied on tobacco at the rate of 2d per lb. leaf and 3d per lb. strips. Export duty was also previously levied on tea at the rate of 2d per lb. but this duty was suspended with effect from 1st November, 1952. Revenue from export duty in 1953 was £240,183, compared with revenue of £287,660 in 1952.

### *Excise Duty*

The only excise duty levied in 1953 was that on tobacco and cigarettes, at the rate of one-tenth of a penny on penny packets containing eight cigarettes and at variable rates on other cigarettes and manufactured tobacco. Revenue from this source in 1953 amounted to £61,590, compared with revenue of £48,714 in 1952.

### *Stamp Duties*

Stamp duties are payable on most legal documents as in the United Kingdom. Revenue deriving from this source in 1953 was £14,998, compared with revenue of £10,088 in 1952.

*Non-Native Poll Tax*

A non-native poll tax is payable by all non-native males over 18 resident in the Protectorate, except those merely on a temporary visit. The tax is £4 for those resident in the country on 1st January, or those who arrive before 30th June. Those who arrive between 1st July and 31st December pay only £2 in respect of the year of entry. Failure to pay the tax within three months of the date on which it falls due renders the defaulter liable to double payment. Poll tax for the year in which an income tax assessment year begins is allowed as a deduction from the income tax payable. The yield from the tax in 1953 was £20,213, compared with yields in 1952 of £19,556, in 1951 of £18,215 in 1950 of £16,714 and in 1949 of £14,315. These figures give some indication of the extent to which the non-native population has increased during the last five years.

*Native Tax*

A poll tax is also payable by all male Africans resident in Nyasaland over the apparent age of 18 years. It is in no sense a hut tax since no African is liable to pay extra tax in respect of additional residences. Exemption may be granted to the aged and infirm who are without means to pay, to migrants living on private estates with the permission of the owners (provided they do not remain in the country for more than twelve continuous months) and to *bona fide* African visitors not employed or seeking employment in the country and not remaining longer than three months. The Governor possesses certain additional powers of exemption.

The rate of tax, which is variable, is prescribed by the Governor in Council under the Native Tax Ordinance of 1939. In 1953 the rate was 17s-6d throughout the Protectorate (excluding two small islands in Lake Nyasa where the rate was 10s). This rate was the same as that for 1952. Of this 17s-6d tax the Native Treasuries received a share of 5s. The share of tax continued to form the largest single item of the revenue of the treasuries.

Under legislation, introduced in 1951, a defaulter, who has failed to pay tax by the 30th September in any year, is liable after that date to pay such amount in addition to the tax as the Governor in Council may specify. During 1953 the additional amount specified by the Governor in Council was again 7s-6d for the whole Protectorate (except for the two small islands in Lake Nyasa where the additional amount was 5s). Thus, generally speaking, the tax increased automatically to 25s on 1st October, 1953, in respect of payment for that year.

The tax is collected by African tax collectors, working under the direction of the Native Authorities and under the general control of District Commissioners. The yield for 1953 was £495,292, compared with revenue in 1952 of £460,640, in 1951 of £439,842, in 1950 of £295,783 and in 1949 of £246,046. In 1950 the rate of tax was 10s.

*Income Tax*

Responsibility for income tax legislation was taken over by the Federal Government on 1st April, 1954. The following information applies to 1953.

Income tax was payable by companies, public and private, local or otherwise, at a flat rate of 7s-6d in the £. There was no profits tax over and above the income tax.

Individual income tax was payable by non-Africans only. Surtax was assessed with, and on the same basis as, income tax. It was, in fact, merely an extension of income tax rates. In calculating the chargeable income of an individual a personal deduction of £500 was allowed to a married man and £250 to a single person. A deduction of £120 was allowed in respect of each child up to a maximum of four (£480); other deductions were allowed for dependants, life insurance and, in certain circumstances, vacation expenses.

The rate of tax payable by individuals started at 1s-3d in the £ and rose to 14s-6d in the £. Income tax, including surtax, payable by individuals in three different categories at various income tax points for the assessment year 1953, based on 1952 income, was as follows:—

<i>Income</i>	<i>Single person</i>			<i>Married man</i>			<i>Married man with two children</i>		
	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
300	..	—		..	—		..	—	
400	..	5	7 6	..	—		..	—	
500	..	13	10 0	..	—		..	—	
600	..	23	10 0	..	2	5 0	..	—	
700	..	35	7 6	..	8	10 0	..	—	
800	..	49	2 6	..	18	10 0	..	—	
900	..	65	7 6	..	28	10 0	..	6	0 0
1,000	..	84	2 6	..	42	5 0	..	14	10 0
1,500	..	187	5 0	..	131	0 0	..	86	0 0
2,000	..	327	17 6	..	249	15 0	..	189	15 0
3,000	..	662	5 0	..	568	10 0	..	490	10 0
5,000	..	1,487	5 0	..	1,368	10 0	..	1,266	10 0
7,000	..	2,718	10 0	..	2,593	10 0	..	2,473	10 0
10,000	..	4,124	15 0	..	3,968	10 0	..	3,833	10 0
*29,751	..	17,469	4 6	..	—		..	—	
*30,001	..	—		..	17,469	4 6	..	—	
*30,241	..	—		..	—		..	17,469	4 6

NOTES.—(i) \*These are the points at which maximum rates of income tax and surtax (*i.e.* 14s-6d in the £) become payable.

(ii) In all the above amounts a deduction of £4 for non-native poll tax set off is taken into account.

The revenue from income tax, including surtax, in 1953 was £716,091, compared with revenue in 1952 of £796,943, in 1951 of £741,449, in 1950 of £770,641 and in 1949 of £586,314.

*Estate Duties*

The payment of estate duty in the Protectorate continued in 1953 to be governed by the Estate Duty Ordinance, 1946, as subsequently amended. On a person's death, estate duty is payable under the Ordinance on all property in the Protectorate beneficially owned by the deceased at the time of his death and, if the deceased was domiciled in Nyasaland at that time, on all personal property so owned by the deceased wherever situated. During recent years there has been a steady increase in the number of persons becoming domiciled in Nyasaland and consequently, since the enactment of the Estate Duty Ordinance, considerable sums have been collected from the estates of such persons. The Ordinance contains provision for relief against the payment of "double duty" in the Protectorate and the United Kingdom or British territories with reciprocal legislation, such as Southern or Northern Rhodesia. No duty in the nature of legacy or succession duty is payable. The present schedule of rates of estate duty was laid down in 1950 and examples of estate duty payable are as follows:—

	£		£	
Estates exceeding	2,000	but not exceeding	5,000	1 per cent.
" "	7,500	" " "	10,000	3 " "
" "	35,000	" " "	40,000	11 " "
" "	100,000	" " "	150,000	23 " "
" "	500,000	" " "	750,000	35 " "

The total estate duty revenue for 1953 was £22,605, compared with revenue in 1952 of £46,115, in 1951 of £68,590, in 1950 of £13,644 and in 1949 of £10,363. The collection of estate duty is undertaken by the Registrar General as secretary to the Estate Duty Commissioners.

## NATIVE TREASURIES

Under the Native Authority Ordinance, Native Treasuries have been established by all Native Authorities. In all except one district the Native Authorities have federated their treasuries on a district basis with a view to strengthening their financial position. Native Treasuries are under the control of the Native Authorities or District Councils, are directly supervised by the District Commissioner and are run in accordance with standing instructions. Their annual estimates are subject to the approval of the Governor.

Financial competence in Native Authorities and their staff is developing but their efficiency still depends mainly on the efforts of District Commissioners. Conditions vary throughout the Protectorate and, as Native Authorities display different degrees of ability, so the degree of responsibility undertaken by them and the degree of control exercised by District Commissioners varies.

Finance Committees of the District Councils have in several cases been formed; in some cases these are efficient; in others they are still learning and do little more than assist in the preparation of the annual estimates, leaving the day to day running of the treasury to the District Commissioner and the treasury clerk. With the strengthening of District Councils, expected as a result of the new Local Government

(District Councils) Ordinance, enacted during the year and mentioned in Part III, Chapter 3, of this Report, Finance Committees will assume considerably greater responsibilities in the management of the financial affairs of their District Councils.

There is an awakening, albeit gradual, of the less literate mass of the population to a realization that the Native Treasuries are indeed their own, that they are in no way financed by Government and that the various local rates and taxes do not accrue to Government but to the local treasury for expenditure on local administration and development. Few villagers, however, have as yet any appreciation of the "share of tax" system or realize that it is not only Government but also their own treasury which benefits from tax collection. Basically this is due to the fact that the average villager has little comprehension of a money economy. To him the Government, in the person of the District Commissioner, is the repository of all wealth. The impression is still widely held that the resources of Government are unlimited and that money is somehow forthcoming at will. The knowledge that the development of Native Administration must be firmly established on a sound financial basis is, however, slowly spreading among the Chiefs. In most cases they are undoubtedly beginning to seek new sources of revenue for their treasuries and their increasing efforts to ensure a full collection of fees due under Native Authority legislation are an encouraging sign.

The general principals governing the finances of Native Treasuries are:—

(i) Reserve funds, not including funds held in special accounts for specific purposes, should be not less than 50 per cent. of normal annual revenue.

(ii) A 10 per cent. margin between recurrent revenue and recurrent expenditure should be maintained.

(iii) New services and capital works should not be undertaken unless it is clear that future recurrent costs can be met.

(iv) The allocation of expenditure between personal emoluments and other charges, *i.e.* services, must be guided by the principle that increases in the former must not be at the expense of existing services and that expenditure should, as far as possible, be devoted to improving and developing the services provided by local government.

The revenue of Native Treasuries was in 1953 derived from the following main sources:—

(i) A share of tax paid by Africans under the Native Tax Ordinance. In 1953 the share was 5s out of a 17s-6d tax and total revenue from this source was £123,531.

(ii) Court fees and fines which were estimated to produce £23,890 in 1953.

(iii) Fees derived from the rules to control services, *e.g.* markets, marriage registration, beer, fishing, canteen, hotel and

dog licence fees. The estimate of revenue from this source in 1953 was £37,294.

(iv) 25 per cent. of rentals on African trust land, of royalties on forest produce from African trust land and of cattle dipping fees and 50 per cent. of the sale of ivory. The estimate for 1953 of revenue from this source was £10,662.

The total estimated revenue of Native Treasuries in 1953 was £220,837, of which Provincial totals were Northern Province £27,514, Central Province £81,017 and Southern Province £112,306.

In special cases grants not exceeding £4,000 in any one year may be made by the Governor to Native Treasuries from the Native Development and Welfare Fund. Only one grant of £300 was made in 1953.

Expenditure by Native Treasuries gives a good indication of the type of services undertaken by Native Authorities. Some items taken from the 1953 estimates are:—

<i>Personal Emoluments</i>			<i>Other Charges</i>		
		£			£
Clerks .. ..	..	11,619	Stationery .. ..	..	3,084
Messengers .. ..	..	11,795	Uniforms .. ..	..	4,264
Mail carriers .. ..	..	1,174	Transport and travelling ..	..	3,455
Community workers ..	..	1,877	Roads .. ..	..	5,062
Market Staff .. ..	..	3,033	Buildings .. ..	..	3,616
Ferryman .. ..	..	683	Agricultural shows .. ..	..	1,680
Health inspectors .. ..	..	2,263	Forestry .. ..	..	1,060
Forest guards .. ..	..	1,170	Medical services .. ..	..	1,022
Well inspectors .. ..	..	590	Council expenses .. ..	..	1,944
Road supervisors .. ..	..	498	Water supplies .. ..	..	4,368
Agricultural instructors and supervisors .. ..	..	3,181			

The Native Authorities are responsible not only for the actual collection of African poll tax throughout the areas under their control but also for the compilation and maintenance of village assessment rolls, on which are entered the names and details of all males liable to pay tax together with a continuous record of annual payments. It is the legal duty of the village headmen to keep the Native Authorities informed of any new settlers of taxable age in their areas and of young persons in the villages who reach the apparent age of 18 years. Assessment rolls are also kept at district headquarters, where statistics in respect of tax collection are compiled. The standard of tax collection has improved notably in recent years though it still leaves something to be desired and the organization of drives for closer collection still springs in most cases from the District Commissioners rather than from the Native Authorities as does propaganda for the more accurate maintenance of assessment rolls. Some Native Authorities, however, have demonstrated their efficiency in these matters.

During 1952 a committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Harold Cartmel-Robinson, C.M.G., O.B.E., toured the Protectorate with the following terms of reference:—

(a) To examine the problem of financial relations between the Government of Nyasaland and the Native Authorities, with a view to making recommendations as to the policy and procedure which should determine those relations in the future.

(b) To examine the system of direct taxation of Africans, including both Central and Local Government taxation, and to make recommendations thereon with special reference to the desirability of extending the system under which Native Authorities levy rates.

The Committee visited all three Provinces and interviewed a great number of people of all races from whom evidence was obtained in the course of formal meetings and informal discussions. The recommendations of the Committee have been studied by Government and a number have been accepted and put into effect.

Due to financial stringency Government was compelled in 1952 to freeze its contribution by way of grants-in-aid to African primary education at approximately the 1951 figure of expenditure. In order to meet increases in the cost of maintaining the development programme for primary education, the Native Authorities were asked to contribute from the funds which they had started to accumulate in their treasuries for educational purposes since 1950. In 1952 a total of £33,500 was contributed by the Native Authorities and in 1953 a further £33,000. The method of financing African primary education is to be extensively revised in 1954.

### TOWN COUNCILS

Before concluding this Chapter a word should be said about the financial affairs of the six town councils of the Protectorate, at Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba, Lilongwe, Salima and Fort Johnston. Councils are established under the Townships Ordinance and are responsible for submitting annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Governor's approval. Revenue is derived mainly from land and building rates, sanitation fees and market fees, while the principal items of expenditure are salaries, road maintenance, vehicle maintenance, sanitation and market maintenance. Extraordinary expenditure usually covers such items as markets, water supplies, drainage and purchase of lorries. The Crown is not legally liable to pay rates but the principle is accepted that Government should pay contributions in lieu of rates to town councils in respect of Government land and residential buildings in the townships and these contributions are made annually in the form of grants-in-aid. In 1953 Government's contributions for this purpose amounted to £19,909. Loans are also made by Government for development and in 1953 a further loan of £5,000 was paid to the Blantyre Town Council for the improvement of street works in the township area. Loans are also being made to the Blantyre, Limbe and Lilongwe Town Councils for the reconstruction of the main roads leading through their respective townships.

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS

LIABILITIES				£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
DRAFTS	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,500	0	0
UNEXPENDED BALANCE OF LOAN FUNDS:												
Development Loan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	121,935	8	6
E.A. Guaranteed Loan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	842	9	0
DEPOSITS												
C.D. and Welfare Grants (b)	..	..	..	..	..	..	71,596	2	8	1,005,473	7	6
Other	..	..	..	..	..	..	933,877	4	10			
SPECIAL FUNDS												
Administrator General												
Brown Trust	..	..	..	205,326	12	2						
Other Estates	..	..	..	2,152	1	8	207,478	13	10			
Custodian of Enemy Property	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,975	13	3			
Official Receiver	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,446	9	1			
Bankruptcy Contingency Fund	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	9	11			
Ewing Bequest Library Fund	..	..	..	..	..	..	898	2	0			
Ruarwe Trust Fund	..	..	..	..	..	..	460	5	2			
A. J. Storey Memorial Fund	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	6	10			
Native Development and Welfare Fund	..	..	..	..	..	..	951,837	4	2			
Post Office Savings Bank	..	..	..	..	..	..	685,367	6	3			
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme	..	..	..	..	..	..	138,071	5	8			
Price Assistance Fund (A.T.B.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	508,259	15	0			
Cotton Board—Reserve Account	..	..	..	..	..	..	300,000	0	0			
Stock Transfer Stamp Duty Fund	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,017	2	11	2,805,890	14	1
WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES												
WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22,590	15	0
GENERAL REVENUE BALANCE AT 1-1-1953												
GENERAL REVENUE BALANCE AT 1-1-1953	..	..	..	..	..	..	809,351	17	4			
Add—Surplus and Deficit Account	..	..	..	..	..	..	469,808	12	10	1,279,160	10	2
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES:—												
POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK												
Deficit as at 31-12-1953	..	..	..	34,668	17	7						
IMPERIAL LOAN TO MEET 1914/18 WAR EXPENDITURE												
Local	..	..	..	42,000	0	0						
War Office Loan	..	..	..	55,499	7	5						
				£97,499	7	5				£5,241,393	4	3

NOTE:—(a) The following Stock and Shares not included in the statement of assets are held by the Crown Agents for the Colonies on behalf of Government:—

- (i) In respect of the Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee:—  
150,000 Ordinary £1 Shares Trans-Zambesia Railway Company  
£719,587-6s-2d 3½% First Mortgage Debenture Stock  
£1,500,000-0s-0d 5% Income Debenture Stock
- (ii) In respect of Expenditure from Loan Funds:—  
£3,188,759-0s-0d Nyasaland Railways 5% Consolidated Income Debenture Stock  
£54,081-5s-0d Nyasaland Railways "A" Ordinary Shares  
£248,141-11s-5d Trans-Zambesia Railway 3½% First Mortgage Debenture Stock
- (iii) In respect of Expenditure from War Surplus Reserve (now absorbed in the General Revenue Balance):—  
£12,504-2s-5d Trans-Zambesia Railways 3½% First Mortgage Debenture Stock
- (b) A sum of £95,928-11s-0d is due from Colonial Development and Welfare Act Funds.

AND LIABILITIES AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1953

	ASSETS	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
<b>CASH</b>										
At Banks and with Sub-Accountants		..		..	232,113	3	4			
With Agencies .. .. .		..		..	4,343	10	4			
In Transit .. .. .		..		..	31,038	9	4			
With Joint Colonial Fund .. .. .		..		..	823,000	0	0			
Imprests .. .. .		..		..	64,380	1	0			
Cash on Fixed Deposit .. .. .		..		..	400,000	0	0	1,554,875	4	0
<b>ADVANCES</b>										
Personal .. .. .		..		..	166,960	5	6			
Postal Accounts .. .. .		..		..	109,664	2	8			
Inter-territorial .. .. .		..		..	17,942	11	2			
Other .. .. .		..		..	311,442	7	11	606,009	7	3
<b>ADVANCES—LOAN EXPENDITURE</b> .. .. .										
<b>INVESTMENTS:—</b>										
<b>On Account of Special Funds:—</b>										
<b>Administrator General</b>										
Brown Trust .. .. .		..		..	202,918	16	3			
Other Estates .. .. .		..		..	2,308	11	5	205,227	7	8
Custodian of Enemy Property .. .. .		..		..	1,487	2	3			
Ewing Bequest Library Fund .. .. .		..		..	898	2	0			
Ruarwe Trust Fund .. .. .		..		..	460	5	2			
A. J. Storey Memorial Fund .. .. .		..		..	24	6	10			
Native Development and Welfare Fund .. .. .		..		..	519,142	1	9			
Post Office Savings Bank .. .. .		..		..	667,166	4	2			
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme .. .. .		..		..	122,042	15	9			
Price Assistance Fund (A.T.B.) .. .. .		..		..	508,259	15	0			
Cotton Board—Reserve Account .. .. .		..		..	300,000	0	0			
Stock Transfer Stamp Duty Fund .. .. .		..		..	9,697	2	0			
					2,334,405	2	7			
On Account of General Revenue Balance .. .. .		..		..	21,539	12	2	2,355,944	14	9
<b>WAR OFFICE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT</b> .. .. .										
		..		..	..		..	20,184	6	5
								£5,241,393	4	3

## Chapter 4. Currency and Banking

Nyasaland is a member of the Southern Rhodesian Currency Board whose notes in denominations of £5, £1, and 10s and silver and cupro-nickel coins are legal tender, as is the coinage of the United Kingdom. At 31st December, 1953, Southern Rhodesian currency on issue to Nyasaland amounted to £2,054,000. United Kingdom silver continued to be withdrawn from circulation during the year.

Two commercial banks, the Standard Bank of South Africa and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) operate in the Protectorate. The former, has four branches, at Blantyre, Zomba, Limbe and Lilongwe and two agencies, at Cholo and Mlanje, and the latter two branches, at Blantyre and Limbe. Commercial bank deposits at the end of December, 1953, totalled £4,053,502 and bank loans and advances for industrial, agricultural and other purposes amounted to £1,142,941.

No bank rate as such exists in the Protectorate; interest rates are guided by the prevailing Bank of England rates.

The Post Office Savings Bank continued to expand its business during 1953 and now has 54 branches in the Protectorate. During the year no fewer than 3,687 new accounts were opened and 840 were closed. At the end of the year there were 22,212 active accounts with a total amount standing to the credit of depositors of £719,207, compared with 19,365 accounts totalling £640,000 at the end of 1952.

Following the receipt of new machinery at the end of 1951 the Savings Bank became fully mechanized in February, 1952. In this way not only was it possible to effect economies of expenditure but the efficiency of the bank was also greatly increased. The annual balance no longer involves the employment of additional staff for three months but is accomplished by the machine process in two weeks.

## Chapter 5. Commerce

Total imports during 1953 were valued at £7,697,895 of which Government imports comprised £770,625 and bullion and specie £118,160. The comparative figures for 1952 were £8,771,631, £892,964 and £27,005 respectively. The total value of exports in 1953 was £7,328,040 of which bullion and specie amounted to £49,275 and re-exports to £160,752. The 1952 figures were £6,301,225, £2,730 and £100,521.

### MAJOR IMPORTS

*(excluding Government imports)\**

	1952		1953	
		£		£
Cotton manufactures† ..	—	1,802,402	—	1,808,394
Vehicles and parts ..	—	1,036,976	—	893,308
Motor spirits and oils ..	—	400,178	—	393,628
Industrial machinery ..	—	506,828	—	324,861
Iron, steel and manufactures (tons) ..	7,840	466,001	2,582	284,056
Apparel, haberdashery, millinery	—	196,782	—	257,486
Railway materials (tons) ..	1,073	230,179	1,687	250,797
Sugar (cwt.) ..	76,126	162,494	109,378	242,894
Chemicals, drugs, dyes, etc. ..	—	304,522	—	214,711
Cutlery, hardware, instruments and implements ..	—	222,718	—	204,905
Pottery, glassware, abrasives	—	268,723	—	160,927
Linen, hemp and jute manufactures ..	—	320,960	—	131,934
Tyres and tubes (lbs.) ..	646,659	185,361	470,001	107,786
Electrical machinery and goods	—	125,420	—	94,807
Paper, stationery and card-board ..	—	113,835	—	93,963
Fuel oils (galls.) ..	1,327,543	86,690	1,296,035	84,315
Silk and art silk manufactures	—	71,116	—	83,893
Footwear ..	—	43,965	—	63,302
Tea, tobacco and rubber shooks (cwt.) ..	34,773	159,600	14,969	62,899

\* Government imports were again almost entirely manufactured articles the most important of which were: cement £32,837; iron, steel and manufactures £148,163; non-ferrous metals £63,932; telephone and telegraph equipment £33,244; other electrical goods £123,622; industrial and other machinery £181,233; and vehicles and accessories £33,143.

† Cotton piece-good imports increased from 12,399,094 yards, valued at £1,614,380 in 1952, to 16,453,733 yards, valued at £1,572,501 in 1953.

NYASALAND  
MAJOR EXPORTS

	1952		1953	
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Tobacco .. .. .	20,539,475	2,133,539	26,254,598	2,877,700
Tea .. .. .	14,654,977	1,911,923	13,127,435	1,570,417
Cotton lint .. .. .	4,800,149	743,779	6,417,121	788,390
Cotton seed .. .. .	3,542,700	41,653	9,899,970	77,967
Tung oil .. .. .	840,738	88,201	1,806,147	127,294
Tea, tobacco and rubber shooks	3,720,878	34,556	467,674	6,538
Soya beans .. .. .	1,552,265	30,523	1,238,904	24,238
Maize and maize flour .. .. .	65,081,329	791,421	77,058,654	903,487
Groundnuts .. .. .	5,888,662	150,314	11,975,622	346,254
Groundnut oil .. .. .	—	—	295,106	17,509
Beans .. .. .	6,856,887	102,971	2,720,955	46,585
Rice .. .. .	949,860	31,227	3,143,853	100,538
Hides and skins .. .. .	376,656	34,744	386,188	38,572
Sisal rope and twine .. .. .	705,132	27,172	653,582	23,198
Kyanite .. .. .	—	—	2,764,400	13,350
Wood manufactures .. .. .	257,260	2,988	2,188,310	23,171

The following table shows the direction of trade in 1952 and 1953 in respect of imports (excluding Government imports, bullion and specie) and exports (excluding re-exports, bullion and specie):—

<i>A. Imports</i>	<i>Percentages of total values</i>	
	1952	1953
United Kingdom .. .. .	44.55	51.43
India .. .. .	10.23	13.42
Southern Rhodesia .. .. .	6.03	8.44
South Africa .. .. .	5.35	6.81
Other British Possessions .. .. .	3.08	3.76
<b>TOTAL BRITISH COMMONWEALTH ..</b>	<b>69.24</b>	<b>83.86</b>
Germany .. .. .	3.37	0.26
Iran .. .. .	1.24	—
Italy .. .. .	2.98	0.27
Japan .. .. .	7.60	0.19
Portuguese East Africa .. .. .	3.22	5.10
U.S.A. .. .. .	2.82	2.28
Other Foreign Countries .. .. .	9.53	8.04
<b>TOTAL FOREIGN COUNTRIES ..</b>	<b>30.76</b>	<b>16.14</b>

<i>B. Exports</i>	<i>Percentages of total values</i>	
	1952	1953
United Kingdom .. .. .	63.4	63.9
Northern Rhodesia .. .. .	4.5	8.5
Southern Rhodesia .. .. .	10.0	4.1
South Africa .. .. .	1.0	1.2
Sierra Leone .. .. .	3.6	3.6
Other British Possessions .. .. .	1.0	2.8
<b>TOTAL BRITISH COMMONWEALTH ..</b>	<b>83.5</b>	<b>84.1</b>
Germany .. .. .	1.2	0.9
Belgian Congo .. .. .	2.0	3.4
Egypt .. .. .	2.8	2.4
Holland .. .. .	1.8	2.1
Portuguese East Africa .. .. .	2.3	1.4
Sweden .. .. .	1.0	0.6
U.S.A. .. .. .	0.8	0.5
Other Foreign Countries .. .. .	4.6	4.6
<b>TOTAL FOREIGN COUNTRIES ..</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>15.9</b>

The decrease in the value of imports related mainly to manufactured articles, excepting clothing and footwear, and can be attributed partly to the carry-over of large stocks from 1952.

The value of exports increased as a result of another favourable agricultural season, the most noteworthy increases being in respect of tobacco, cotton, groundnuts and rice. Also of interest is the export of the first shipments of kyanite referred to in Chapter 6.

The import and export of certain articles is prohibited under the Customs Ordinance. Prohibited imports included false or counterfeit coin; second-hand clothing, etc. which has not been properly disinfected; uniforms of Her Majesty's forces for purposes of sale, African distilled intoxicating spirits; artillery and ammunition; knuckle dusters; explosives; and all goods requiring an import permit. Prohibited exports include opium; gold, silver and jewellery; firearms and ammunition destined for countries other than those in the British Commonwealth; and articles requiring an export permit.

Three hundred and sixteen companies were on the register in 1953, five with a nominal capital of £24,100 being incorporated in the Protectorate during 1953 as against ten with a nominal capital of £92,800 in 1952. In addition, six new companies with a nominal capital of £20,270,000, incorporated outside Nyasaland, were registered to carry on business inside the Protectorate. In 1952 there were seven such companies registered with a nominal capital of £15,650,000.

The commercial activity of the community is to some extent reflected in the number of land transactions taking place, as many of these relate to the opening or transfer of trading plots. The number

of such transactions in 1953 was 852 compared with 878 in 1952 and 580 in 1951.

Trade continued to be mainly in the hands of Europeans and Asians. The Africans are, however, slowly learning the possibilities of participating in the commercial life of the Protectorate and a factor in this respect has been the development of the co-operative movement described in Chapter 6. Over 5,000 Africans were engaged in trade during the year.

Central control of prices continued to be exercised in 1953 by the Price Control Board, appointed under the Defence (Price of Goods) Regulations, 1948, as subsequently amended. The control of the prices of all locally produced goods was removed in August and price control is now in force only in respect of a very few imported articles, the most important of which are petrol, drugs and medicines and cooking fats. The legislation constituting local Price Fixing Committees which previously operated in a number of districts in order to control the prices of native foodstuffs, was repealed during the year, the intention being to allow prices to stabilize themselves in accordance with the law of supply and demand.

As stated in Chapter 2 of this Part of the Report, Nyasaland has Government Representatives in Salisbury and Johannesburg whose main duties are connected with migrant labour. The addresses of these officers are, respectively, Box 923, Salisbury, and Box 55, Fordsburg, Johannesburg. There is also a Nyasaland Commissioner in London whose address is 11B Lower Regent Street. In Beira the Union Castle Steamship Company and in Capetown Thomas Cook and Sons act as agents to the Nyasaland Government in connection with shipping matters.

## Chapter 6. Production

[\*In this Chapter, unless otherwise stated, weights are given in short tons.]

### LAND UTILIZATION AND TENURE

The land area of the Protectorate is 36,879 square miles and the water area 12,298 square miles. A description of the physiography and climate of Nyasaland is given in Part III, Chapter I of this Report.

The great bulk of the productive land is arable, largely under peasant cultivation with small areas under tea, tobacco and tung estates. African-owned cattle are usually grazed in the bush adjacent to their owners' villages or on stream plains in the neighbourhood. Arable production comprises tobacco, tea, tung and cotton as the principal economic crops and maize, cassava, rice, beans and groundnuts as the principal food crops.

The forest estate, which comprises nearly one-fifth of the Protectorate's land area, contains some species of rare and valuable softwoods, notably Mlanje Cedar (*Widdringtonia whytei*) and a variety of useful hardwoods, but so far as is at present known the timber resources are barely equal to the Protectorate's needs and large scale afforestation is taking place.

There remain undeveloped areas of some size in the Protectorate, notably the Vipya and Nyika plateaux in the Northern Province, the potentialities of which are at present under investigation. The development of most of these areas does, however, depend on drainage and irrigation, the clearance of bush, the improvement of communications and the solution of other natural problems.

The 1945 census revealed a density, of 55.51 to the square mile, with a range of 12.14 to 309.77 between districts.

The classification of land utilization is tentatively estimated as follows, figures being very approximate:

Arable land	..	..	..	..	10,000 square miles
Land for growing tree-crops, vines, shrubs, etc.	..	..	..	..	1,300    "    "
Permanent meadow and pasture	..	..	..	..	2,300    "    "
Wood or forest land	..	..	..	..	7,000    "    "
Other land	..	..	..	..	16,279   "   "
TOTAL LAND AREA					..    .. <u>36,879 square miles</u>

The Natural Resources Ordinance of 1949, as amended, provides for the setting up of Provincial and District Natural Resources Boards. The functions of Provincial Boards include the making of Orders for the conservation of natural resources, recommending to the Governor any legislation which they deem to be necessary for this purpose, the exercise of general supervision over all natural resources and the

examination of all conservation proposals submitted to them by District Boards and executive officers. District Boards co-operate by formulating conservation schemes for submission to the Provincial Boards and undertaking conservation works and measures on the authority of the Provincial Boards. Both types of Board include in their membership European non-officials and prominent Africans.

A Provincial Board, if it considers that measures should be taken for the conservation of natural resources in any part of the Province, may order the owner or occupier of the land in question to undertake such measures. These Orders may relate to the use to which land may be put, the preservation and protection of stream banks, sources or courses, the preservation or restriction of cultivation, the methods of cultivation on any land, the control of water, the manner of watering, depasturing or moving stock and the construction or maintenance of conservation works. Failure to comply with such Orders renders the owner or occupier guilty of an offence. Under section 20 of the principal Ordinance the Governor is empowered to make Rules of general application for similar purposes. Such Rules were enacted in 1952 and were applied during the same year to all three Provinces.

In all three Provinces bunding work continued during the year. In the Northern Province there were ten bunding teams in operation and a total of 3,904 miles of bunds were marked out, of which 3,329 miles were made up, protecting approximately 47,000 acres. In order to ensure the construction of the bunds, after marking, 27 soil rangers were employed and results may be said to have been satisfactory, the size of the bunds in some cases exceeding the required specifications. In the Central Province 6,915 miles were marked and of these 5,426 miles were made up into bunds during the year, protecting an area of 76,526 acres. A great deal of subsequent work was required in many cases to induce the cultivators to bring their bunds to the correct size and shape although some improvement over previous years was noticeable. Little work could be done in the Ncheu District, owing to the political troubles which took place during the bunding season. In the Southern Province also disturbances took place at the crucial time and had an adverse effect on the bunding programme. Prior to that, good progress had been made and a greater degree of concentration was effected than in 1952 with the object of facilitating follow-up work. With the outbreak of the disturbances, however, the campaign had to be abandoned in all districts except Fort Johnston and parts of Mlanje. With the return of peaceful conditions it was possible to resume the interrupted campaign. Thirteen teams operated in the Province and marked a total of 5,307 miles of bunds of which 3,757 miles were made up during the year, protecting 22,868 acres of land. A further 465,406 yards of bunds were marked on private estates, protecting 1,400 acres.

Apart from bunding, considerable routine effort was directed towards encouraging well-made planting ridges, box ridging, stream bank protection, gully control and the protection of roads, garden paths and boundaries. The control of bush fires also occupied the attention

of Natural Resources Boards and in the Northern Province special fire guards were employed to assist in this control. Extensive fires, which swept the Nyika and Vipya Plateaux in late September and October, caused the Northern Province Natural Resources Board to abandon its previous policy of burning these areas after the first rains and to adopt a policy of controlled burning as early as possible in the year.

In the Northern Province the Provincial Board continued to direct its attention to the control of cultivation on the Vipya Plateau. A system of permits to cultivate within the area was approved and a register of cultivators was prepared. A line showing the furthest limit of cultivation was demarcated and steps were taken to exercise stricter control over soil conservation within the area. A scheme for the construction of small earth dams in the Province by means of ox-drawn scoops, designed to provide water for stock in otherwise dry areas, was initiated during the year and preliminary training in the use of the scoops was given. A soil conservation course was held during May.

In the Central Province the main efforts of the Provincial Board were directed towards the enforcement of Natural Resources legislation. In addition, the Board revised the latest dates of burning in the Province and submitted for approval recommendations from the Kota Kota Board regarding the boundaries of the game reserve and the establishment of a forest reserve bordering the Kaombe River. An Order made in 1951 prohibiting cultivation in certain parts of the Kota Kota Game Reserve after a specified period became effective during the year through the voluntary removal of the cultivators concerned and proposals for the incorporation of the area into the Game Reserve were submitted to Government. The Board again directed its attention to the question of afforestation in the tobacco-growing areas of the Province. It also secured Government's approval for a scheme for the construction of small earth dams by means of ox-drawn scoops on the lines of the Northern Province Scheme; and began to implement the scheme before the end of the year.

In the Southern Province the attention of the Provincial Board was, apart from the more general aspects of soil conservation and the application of the Natural Resources Rules, directed towards such problems as roadside conservation, particularly in connection with the new tarmacadamized roads being constructed in the Province; the need for measures to protect the Cholo/Chikwawa escarpment; a successful mechanical bunding scheme in the Port Herald District; the preservation of the surrounds of the new Mudi Dam near Blantyre; and dam construction in connection with which the Board's representations were successful in obtaining a mechanical dam construction unit for hire to those requiring it. Five Orders for the control of cultivation were made by the Board under the Natural Resources Ordinance during the year.

It would be no exaggeration to say that the Protectorate is now soil conservation conscious and much of the progress in this direction achieved in the past few years may be credited to the Provincial and District Natural Resources Boards.

Approximately 3.8 per cent. of the total land area of the Protectorate is at present held in freehold by private landowners. Some 9.6 per cent. comprises the areas of townships and the land held by Government (including the areas of public institutions and State forests). The remaining land, approximately 86.6 per cent. of the whole, is African trust land, vested in the Secretary of State for the Colonies and administered by the Governor on his behalf for the common benefit, direct or indirect, of the African inhabitants of the Protectorate. Native Authorities may, however, subject to the directions of the Governor, authorize Africans to use and occupy African trust land within their respective areas in accordance with the native customary law prevailing therein. The Governor may grant leases of or dispose of other interests in African trust land, either to Africans or non-Africans, but before doing so he must consult the Native Authority of the area in which the land is situated and only with the approval of the Secretary of State may he grant an estate or interest greater than a lease for 99 years. The Governor may also make grants to search for and work minerals on African trust land, following consultation with the Native Authority and having general regard to African interests. He may also acquire trust land for public purposes which are for the direct or indirect benefit of Africans, again after consultation with the Native Authority, compensation being paid where necessary from public revenue. Rents paid under leases or other interests granted in respect of trust land are shared between the Native Treasuries and the Native Development and Welfare Fund.

The Nyasaland Protectorate (African Trust Land) Order in Council, 1950, defines "African trust land" and "public land". Provision for the disposal of public land is made in the Public Land Ordinance, empowering the Governor to make and execute, under the Public Seal, grants and leases of public land for any purpose and on any terms he thinks fit.

The types of tenure on which land is held in the Protectorate are freehold (arising from Certificates of Claim granted by Government in the early days of the Protectorate), leasehold from the Crown or private landowners and leases of African trust land, already described above. Africans occupy their land by customary tenure originating in a Chief or other person traditionally recognized as authorized to allocate a user of land.

The areas and types of holding in respect of different sections of the community are as follows; all figures are approximate:—

Unalienated African trust land	..	..	20,382,919	acres
Government, townships, etc.	..	..	2,175,209	„
Freehold	..	..	891,402	„
Leasehold	..	..	153,030	„
TOTAL LAND AREA			23,602,560	acres

The position of Africans residing on private estates is governed by the Africans on Private Estates Ordinance.

As a result of the recommendations of the Abrahams Report and the Land Planning Committee subsequently set up, some 300,000 acres of land were acquired by Government from estate-owners in the Southern Province for the resettlement of Africans living in other congested areas. Land of three types was acquired as follows:—

(i) Accommodation land on which it is possible to provide for concentrated settlement by reason of the employment and industry within easy reach of it, without regard to the carrying capacity of the soil. This category totals some 75,000 acres.

(ii) Land unsuitable for fresh settlement on any appreciable scale by reason of its distance from industrial areas and the full extent to which it is already occupied. This category totals some 26,000 acres.

(iii) Land lending itself to increased agricultural production and to the reception of considerable numbers of new settlers if water and communications are provided. This category totals about 200,000 acres.

The policy adopted on acquired lands has been to concentrate huts as far as possible in the accommodation areas in order to release the available agricultural land for use. Since 1950 Government has succeeded in providing accommodation on these lands for an increase in population from 65,500 to 82,200.

During the year work on the resettlement of Africans in the acquired areas proceeded. In the Cholo and Blantyre Districts, on the twelve established accommodation blocks on which concentration of huts is complete, maintenance work proceeded as a routine operation and these blocks continued to serve their purpose of providing accommodation land for those requiring it from the congested areas in their vicinities.

At Chingale the reception of immigrants continued and, with the completion of a market and of African Staff quarters and the erection of offices and stores, a station was created with all the necessary facilities for the effective administration of the area. On the Linthipe River, the most fertile part of Chingale, a market was built together with quarters for African agricultural staff. The road system was further improved and a number of new bridges built and, except when conditions are abnormally wet, Chingale can now be reached direct from Zomba at all times of the year.

At Magomero little more remained to be done to complete the concentration of huts in the western part set aside for accommodation use and the time of the settlement staff was largely devoted to reconnaissance work in the sparsely populated area to the east, involving the selection of residential sites and the demarcation of agricultural holdings so as to enable this area to be developed by individuals on a proper farming basis. At Nasawa, the settlement station of Magomero, houses for the settlement officer and the agricultural officer were

completed and occupied, also a post office and dispensary. Suitable quarters for all African staff were erected and by the end of the year the building programme for this settlement station was virtually completed.

The disturbances which took place in September had the temporary effect of making working conditions on settlement blocks more difficult. Not only was there, for a time, considerable organized opposition to hut-movement, hut-numbering and bunding operations, but there was also a marked interruption to the normal flow of immigrants into settlement areas. In addition, much of the time of settlement officers had necessarily to be devoted to special duties in connection with the maintenance of law and order. As a result of the action taken by Government these difficulties quickly disappeared.

### AGRICULTURE

The Protectorate's principal economic crops are tea, grown on European estates; tobacco, also grown in quantity on estates but to an even greater extent on African trust land; tung, another estate crop, and cotton, almost entirely a trust land crop. Other crops of some economic importance are sisal, maize, groundnuts, rice, beans and wheat.

For food, maize, cassava, rice, beans and groundnuts are principally grown, supplemented by millet, sorghum, sweet potatoes, wheat and bananas.

The 1952/53 season was a favourable one for food crops throughout most of the Southern Province, the only areas of marked shortage being the Fort Johnston Lake-shore area, parts of north-west Chikwawa and the southern part of the Port Herald District. In the Central Province the season was a remarkably good one in the main producing areas but there were a few areas of local shortage on the North Dedza Lake-shore. In the Northern Province there was considerable anxiety throughout the season but fortunately frequent light showers saved the situation and only in the Fort Hill area was there a shortage of food towards the end of the year.

#### *Maize*

Maize is the staple food for Africans in most areas of the Protectorate. It is, like other food crops, grown on a family basis. Owing to the great variation in the quality of maize produced it is impossible to give any useful indication of the yields obtained per acre in the different parts of the Protectorate.

Maize surplus to local requirements was sold to the Produce Marketing Board which, under the Produce Marketing Ordinance, replaced the Maize Control Board at the end of 1952. The Board was charged with the disposal of this surplus firstly, to satisfy the needs of

schools, hospitals and employers of labour within the Protectorate and secondly, for export to neighbouring territories.

In the years following the serious drought and famine of 1949, Government did all it could to encourage the production of maize and other food crops. This policy, while achieving marked success, led to the establishment of maize as an economic crop and to an alarming increase in the acreage planted. In 1952, therefore, steps were taken to confine the production of maize as an economic crop to those areas known to be suitable for its cultivation and in other areas to substitute crops such as cotton and groundnuts in order to effect a well-balanced use of the soil; and to obtain the ever-growing food requirements of the Protectorate by increasing yields per acre. This policy was further pursued in 1953.

The 1952/53 season was generally a favourable one for maize in the main producing areas. Purchases from trust land of the current season's crop amounted to 41,223 tons, compared with 47,148 tons in 1952. Of the total, 31,181 tons came from the Central Province, 9,465 tons from the Southern Province and 577 tons from the Northern Province. In addition, 2,980 tons were purchased from estates, compared with 3,543 tons in 1952. The total surplus in respect of the 1952/53 crop was therefore 44,203 tons, compared with 50,691 tons in 1952. A further 4,864 tons of the previous season's crop was bought by the Produce Marketing Board during May.

The price paid to the grower for maize during 1953 remained 1d per lb.

#### *Groundnuts*

The record groundnut crop in 1953, of which 5,689 tons was marketed, compared with 4,837 tons in 1952, could have been considerably larger had the season been more favourable. The substantial return derived from groundnuts in 1952 had led to a considerable increase in the acreage planted which gave promise of an outstanding crop. The erratic nature of the rainfall, however, with dry spells at critical stages, resulted in a large number of empty shells, particularly in the Northern Province. Apart from the economic return available to Africans from the sale of this crop, the effect of groundnuts on their diet is acknowledged to be extremely beneficial.

The Produce Marketing Board took over responsibility for marketing the surplus groundnut crop grown on African trust land in 1953 on lines similar to those described in respect of maize.

The price paid to the grower for groundnuts during 1953 remained at 3½d per lb. for shelled nuts.

#### *Wheat*

The 1953 crop, amounting to 650 tons, was a record and exceeded the previous record in 1945 by 15 tons and the 1952 crop by 119 tons. Early planting conditions were far from favourable but later the weather improved and, with the adoption of close spacing, yields were

much higher than usual. Once again almost all the wheat produced came from the Kirk Range and it is unlikely that there will be much further expansion without irrigation.

Wheat grown on African trust land is sold at native produce markets under licence issued in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance.

The price paid to the grower for wheat during 1953 was increased from 3d to 3½d per lb.

### *Paddy*

Conditions for rice-growing were favourable and a record crop of 4,330 tons of paddy was marketed, compared with the previous record in 1952 of 3,009 tons. The main increase occurred in the Northern Province where production exceeded that of the previous year by 60 per cent.

Paddy grown on African trust land is sold at native produce markets under licence issued in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance. In the Northern Province marketing is undertaken by co-operative societies while in the Central Province it is organized by the Kota Kota Produce and Trading Society, an African-owned society sponsored by Government. From modest beginnings some 14 years ago the Society has expanded its business enormously. It employs a European manager and assistant manager and deals not only in produce but also in general trade. In the business year ending 31st May, 1953, the turnover of the Society was £146,680 comprising £122,245 from produce dealing and £24,436 from general trade. Paddy is bought from its individual member growers and from a Co-operative Society in the Karonga District and milled in the Society's mill. Rice is sold by the Society throughout the Protectorate, any surplus being exported. The 1953 paddy crop bought locally amounted to 1,620 tons and from Karonga to 1,802 tons; 853 tons of rice was sold in the Protectorate and 1,415 tons was exported to Southern Rhodesia and East Africa. A loan of £10,000 has been made to the Society from Native Development and Welfare Funds for the general development of its activities.

The average price paid to the grower for paddy during the year was 1¾d per lb.

### *Other Food Crops*

The millet crop in the Port Herald area gave only poor yields, due to the very dry weather during its early growth, but elsewhere in the Southern Province where sorghums and millets were grown, particularly in north-west Zomba and Mlanje, fair yields were obtained. There was no surplus for export.

Climatic conditions in the Southern Province were favourable to all types of pulses except haricot beans while in the Central Province

they were unfavourable to all pulses. A total of 3,424 tons was purchased, compared with 4,332 tons in 1952. In order to encourage the type of bean acceptable to the export market different prices were offered for the different types, varying from 1½d per lb. for Canadian Wonder beans to 2½d per lb. for white haricot beans. The response was encouraging and growers have accumulated seed of the more desirable types for planting in 1954. Marketing of pulses was undertaken by the Produce Marketing Board.

In a large number of low-lying areas of the Protectorate cassava may be regarded as one of the main food crops. Replantings were well maintained, though in the Kota Kota District the late rains adversely affected the crop. The demand for dry cassava-root in East Africa encouraged traders to purchase 1,664 tons in the Southern Province. Every encouragement continued to be given throughout the Protectorate, particularly along the southern Lake littoral, to the cultivation of cassava as a famine reserve crop but the response was poor.

European potato production continued to be profitable in the Dedza and Ncheu Hills and recorded sales amounted to 963 tons in these areas. Surplus production in the Cholo, Domasi and Dowa Hills found ready local markets.

### *Tobacco*

Tobacco is grown in large parts of the Central and Southern Provinces, both on African trust land and on estates. In 1953 the Protectorate's tobacco crop totalled 36,074,143 lbs., an increase of some 16 million lbs. over the 1952 crop of 20,076,740 lbs. and only slightly less than the 1951 record crop of 36,139,502 lbs.

Comparative production figures for 1952 and 1953, together with the average price per lb. on the auction floor, were as follows:—

<i>Type</i>	1952		1953	
	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Average price</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Average price</i>
Fire-cured ..	12,556,080	16.44d	24,362,002	13.85d
Sun/air-cured ..	2,999,899	16.52d	6,285,881	16.49d
Flue-cured ..	3,518,648	21.47d	3,734,951	25.46d
Burley ..	1,002,113	23.28d	1,691,309	22.71d
TOTALS ..	20,076,740	17.68d	36,074,143	15.93d

Of the fire-cured crop of 24,362,002 lbs., which compares with 12,556,080 lbs. in 1952, a total of 22,141,302 lbs. was grown on trust land. The large crop was the result of favourable climatic conditions in the Central Province, the main growing area, where the number of registered growers increased from 53,092 in 1952 to 57,489 in 1953. In the Southern Province both the number of registered growers and the

amount of tobacco produced decreased slightly compared with 1952 in accordance with the policy of encouraging alternative crops in this area which is marginal for dark-fired tobacco. The quality of the dark-fired tobacco produced was unfortunately disappointing, mainly owing to the great strain which the large crop imposed on the limited handling and curing facilities provided by the average grower. Because of this and the weaker demand for this type of tobacco the average price dropped from 16.44d per lb. in 1952 to 13.85d per lb. in 1953. In the Central Province the average acreage per grower was 1.62 and the average yield per grower was 391 lbs., giving a return of approximately £13-5s. The comparative figures for 1952 were 1.66, 212 and £5-12s respectively. In the Southern Province the average acreage per grower was only .55, giving a yield of 119 lbs.

Flue-cured tobacco is grown entirely on estates and the 1953 crop totalled 3,734,951 lbs., compared with 3,518,648 lbs. in 1952. The better quality leaf received satisfactory prices and it was evident that the general standard of production had been improved. The average price was 25.46d per lb., compared with the 1952 average of 21.47d per lb. The Kasungu crop, amounting to 632,000 lbs., had the misfortune to suffer from *Alternaria* which, of course, reflected in the prices for that particular section of the flue-cured crop (22.49d per lb.).

The sun/air-cured crop amounted to 6,285,881 lbs. and sold for approximately the same average price as in 1952 at 16.49d per lb. The Burley crop was 1,691 lbs. and sold for an average of 22.71d per lb., compared with 23.28d per lb. in 1952.

Under the Tobacco Ordinance of 1952, as amended, an African Tobacco Board is appointed which includes in its membership European officials and non-officials and African non-officials. The Board is charged with the purchase of all tobacco grown by Africans for sale, except on land in respect of which the owner or occupier holds a valid tobacco-buying licence. It is also the duty of the Board to market the tobacco thus bought. Markets are widely scattered throughout the tobacco-growing areas of the Protectorate and the marketing system, which embodies registration of growers and provides for price assistance from a fund specially created for such a purpose, works well.

Under the provisions of the same Ordinance all tobacco grown in the Protectorate must be sold by auction on a licensed auction floor; two such floors have been licensed for the purpose at Limbe.

### *Cotton*

The 1952/53 cotton crop, totalling 10,787 tons of seed cotton (which gave 15,854 standard bales of cotton lint) fell short by 450 tons of the Protectorate's previous record output achieved in the 1934/35 season. The Southern Province produce the bulk of the Protectorate's crop and the 1952/53 season's production of 7,969 tons of seed cotton mostly from the Lower River area, constituted a record for this Province.

1952/53 was the second summer season in what has come to be known as the "new regime". This new regime in cotton-growing is a system designed to obtain greater control over red bollworm by lengthening the close season through uprooting cotton before the 31st July, insisting on early planting to ensure a high ratio of early bolls to bollworm larvae and insisting on pure stand planting of cotton to obviate the retarding effects of interplanting with maize. This new system again achieved notable results on the Lower River, but was not quite so successful on the Dowa Lake-shore and in the somewhat marginal areas of Mlanje and Zomba Districts. The heavy crop obtained in the Lower River was also partly the result of a substantial increase in the acreage planted to cotton (an increase of 49 per cent. over 1952) and of a combination of climatic conditions which favoured rapid growth and the setting of a very early and compact crop.

The Karonga Lake-shore cotton crop, which is a winter crop planted in April or May, yielded a total of 590 tons (886 bales).

Estate cotton production increased from 745 tons of seed cotton in 1952 to 1,055 tons in 1953.

The following table show comparative figures for cotton production over the past five years:—

	Number of Growers		Summer Crop (tons of seed cotton)			Total Protectorate crop (including summer and winter crops) in tons of seed cotton
	Southern Province	Central Province	Southern Province	Central Province	Estates	
1948/49	21,400	2,260	908	72	354	1,334
1949/50	36,904	1,635	5,502	40	828	6,370
1950/51	28,473	2,873	1,838	193	241	2,272
1951/52	25,211	16,537	6,285	1,015	662	7,966
1952/53	27,094	15,837	7,969	1,173	1,055	10,787

There are five cotton ginneries in the Protectorate. All are owned by private companies or individuals. Total production from the five ginneries in 1953 was 15,854 bales of 400 lbs. each.

The marketing of cotton is governed by the Cotton Ordinance, 1951, as subsequently amended, which establishes a Cotton Marketing Board, similar to the Boards set up for produce and tobacco, charged with the purchase and disposal of all cotton grown on African trust land, other than trust land in respect of which a cotton buying licence has been issued by the Director of Agriculture. Markets are established throughout the cotton-growing areas of the Protectorate.

The price paid to the grower for Grade I seed cotton in 1953 remained 5d per lb. and for Grade II seed cotton 1d per lb.

#### Tea

At the beginning of 1953 tea interests were just recovering from the depressingly low prices which had prevailed during the latter part

of 1952, prices which touched 11½d per lb. From this point recovery was steady and by the end of 1953 the price had risen to 47d per lb. At the end of March, 1953, 23,362 acres were estimated to be under tea, of which 20,153 acres were in bearing. Production for the year ending 31st March, 1953, amounted to 13,798,177 lbs., a serious reduction on the figures for 1951 and 1952 which were respectively 15,721,660 lbs. and 14,654,977 lbs. The decrease was partly due to the unfavourable season but also to economies in fertilizer programmes necessitated by the serious fall in prices in 1952. There was, however, a great improvement in quality and it was fortunate that there was sufficient labour to maintain a fairly short plucking round.

### *Tung*

The total area under tung was 17,780 acres in March, 1953, of which some 13,210 acres were in bearing. The decline in acreage, compared with the 1952 total of 18,137 acres, reflects the anxiety felt by tung growers over the price and it is unlikely that the decline will be arrested unless prices improve. By the end of the year the price had dropped to £107-10s per ton, f.o.b. Beira, far below the cost of production. The 1952/53 crop was, in accordance with the biennial bearing habits of tung, very much reduced in comparison with the crop of 1951/52. The crop yielded 385 tons of tung oil, compared with 807 tons obtained from the previous year's record crop. The 1953/54 crop, which was setting its fruit towards the end of the year, again gave promise of being a heavy crop; but it is unlikely that the full potential will be realized in view of the insufficient fertilizer which is being applied. The Colonial Development plantations in the Northern Province now have an area of 4,511 acres planted to tung and a further 534 acres have been cleared for planting in the 1953/54 season.

The headquarters staff of the Agricultural Department during the year included the Director, the Deputy Director and an Assistant Director. The field staff, which is distributed on a Provincial basis, had an establishment of three Chief Agricultural Officers, 18 Agricultural Officers, 41 Agricultural Assistants and 16 Development Assistants. The African establishment of the Department in 1953 included 192 Agricultural Instructors and 535 Assistant Agricultural Instructors. Research and technical officers are responsible to the Director of Agriculture and are stationed according to the nature of their duties. In addition to the Chief Agricultural Research Officer, research staff included two Entomologists, two Agricultural Chemists, an Ecologist, an Analytical Chemist, a Plant Breeder, a Plant Pathologist and a Tea Research Officer. The Water Development Branch, which was seconded to Sir William Halcrow and Partners for work on the Shire Valley Project during the year, included three Water Development Engineers and three Hydrological Assistants. The total establishment of the Agricultural Department in 1953 was 125 European Officers, four Asians and 1,104 Africans.

There was no material change during the year in the Department's fourfold policy of conserving natural resources, encouraging the production of more and better food crops, increasing the output and quality of cash crops and endeavouring to blend the whole into a proper system of farming.

The Department's field staff continued to advise the farming community how to build up and maintain the fertility and productivity of the land, how to increase the yields of the various crops and how to protect the soil and its vegetal cover. Fair progress may now be said to have been achieved on African trust land where it is possible to invoke the aid of the law in order to enforce measures, such as uprooting or crops of the construction of ridges, which are considered necessary or desirable.

In addition to verbal advice, other methods of instruction were also used. The African is very appreciative of visual demonstration and the system continued whereby agricultural instructors are required to prepare a model garden situated in a prominent position, set out and cropped on the basis of a rotation devised for the particular area.

Much greater assistance has been given in recent years to schools and in many areas qualified Agricultural Instructors have been given the special task of visiting and advising all the schools in their areas in agricultural methods and the establishment of demonstration plots. It is hoped in this way to secure continuity of garden practice and the innovation has had a stimulating effect on the standard set in school gardens.

The African Tobacco Board's mobile cinema unit continued to tour the tobacco-growing areas of the Protectorate showing the film of tobacco production specially made for the purpose by the Central African Film Unit and by the end of the year the film had been seen by a total of 46,173 persons. The success of this film led to the commissioning of another film dealing with cotton and this was produced in 1953 and was ready for showing in the Lower River before the end of the 1953/54 cotton season. Plans for the production of further agricultural films are under consideration.

Two excellent European agricultural shows were held during the year, at Zomba and Lilongwe. On account of the disturbances, African agricultural shows were few in the Southern and Central Provinces but in the Northern Province seven shows were held.

In order to provide for the training of African cultivators a new centre was opened at the Tuchila Experimental Station, some 20 miles from Limbe. The centre was built from Native Development and Welfare Funds and will provide approximately 20 one-week courses per season, each containing 25 students. In the dry season it will be possible to use the centre for other courses; such as training in the use and maintenance of stock and draught oxen, courses for school teachers, refresher courses for departmental staff and courses for training Natural Resources Councillors,

The "Master Farmer" scheme, under which a bonus is paid if more than four acres of land are farmed on an approved basis, operated in 1953 and £2,000 was available in the Native Development and Welfare Fund for the payment of these bonuses. The encouragement of individual farmers in this way is now one of the accepted principles of agricultural policy in the territory.

In order to encourage the use of manure by African farmers Government continued to subsidize the price of farm carts for sale to Africans to the extent of £25 per cart. Carts were thus available to farmers at £24 to £33 and 155 carts were sold under this scheme in 1953, compared with 51 carts in 1952. Fertilizers also continued to be made available by the African Tobacco Board to approved growers at subsidized prices and 30 tons was sold in this way in 1953, compared with 11 tons in 1952. The system whereby Native Treasuries could grant loans for the purchase of agricultural equipment continued during the year and a number of such loans were made.

The training of staff continued at the Mpemba (Makwapala) Training Centre near Blantyre. In 1952 it was decided that, in order to increase the output of the Centre, only candidates with Standard VI qualifications should be accepted and the course should be compressed into one year instead of two. This policy was adopted in 1953 and the year started with 13 second-year students and 15 of the new one-year students in training. In August 12 of the second-year and 11 of the one-year students passed out to join the African Civil Service. The new term at Mpemba opened in October when there were 22 one-year students and six students doing the advanced course.

The total output of the Mpemba Centre since its inception has thus been brought to 194. This small figure reflects the need for greatly increased training facilities and in order to meet this need a Colonial Development and Welfare grant was obtained during the year for the construction of a joint Agricultural and Veterinary Training Centre, which will be situated on land attached to the Agricultural Research Station near Lilongwe and will be capable of accommodating at least 100 students. Work on the construction of the centre started towards the end of the year.

The Water Development Branch of the Department remained seconded to Sir William Halcrow and Partners during the year in connection with the large scale hydrological survey of the Shire Valley being undertaken by that firm. The survey has as its main object the rehabilitation of a large area of the country through the stabilization of the level of Lake Nyasa, the partial regulation of the flow of the Shire River, the reclamation of swamp lands, the development of irrigation and the production of large amounts of hydro-electric power. It has included not only hydrological but also extensive land and river surveys, and geological, entomological and soil surveys. Work proceeded during the year and the main body of the survey party left the territory in April, 1954. A comprehensive Report will be submitted to Government in due course.

At the end of 1952 the Water Development Branch had 68 gauging stations in operation besides evaporation and automatic recorder stations. By the end of 1953 the total number of stations operated by the Branch had increased to 108 regular gauging stations on rivers, 13 Lake gauging stations, two automatic recorder stations, 20 evaporation stations and 11 rain-gauge stations. In addition, a total of 1,331 silt samples were taken at 75 stations. On the constructional side automatic water level recorders, with their attendant shafts, intakes and recorder houses, were erected at Liwonde, Matope and Ruvo Stations. Boat cables suspended from steel towers were erected on the Ruvo River, the Likabula and at Mlanje on the Upper Ruvo. The first true concrete gauging weir was designed and erected on the Naperi River.

The principal research activities of the Agricultural Department are carried out at the Central Research Station near Lilongwe. In 1953 a total of 140 acres was planted to crops and a further 20 acres of new land was cleared for long-term experiments. The major trials dealt with tobacco, maize, groundnuts and soil fertility and there were in addition a range of observation plots covering sorghum, beans, sunflower, safflower and sesame varieties. Pasture work also formed an important part of the station's investigational programme and many introductions of grasses and legumes were kept under observation in nursery plots. The maize variety trials confirmed previous results in that Southern Rhodesia hybrids showed superior yielding capacity although the grain was found to be rather soft and of poor storing quality. Breeding work also continued. The dark-fired tobacco investigations included fertilizer trials, which once again confirmed the outstanding importance of nitrogen on dark-fired Western, both in increasing yield and enhancing the value of the leaf. Tobacco breeding continued and some promising selections were obtained.

Similar trials were carried out at other sub-stations presenting differing conditions of soil and climate, including Tuchila, the main experimental station in the Southern Province for crops other than tea and tung, and Lisasadzi in the Kasungu District. At Lisasadzi, also, experiments in the growing and curing of flue-cured tobacco were again undertaken and the results were made available to the flue-cured tobacco planters in the area.

Research on tea continued at the research stations at Mlanje and Mimosa and the year was notable for the great strides made possible at the latter station by a generous grant from the Nyasaland Tea Association with the help of which, new offices and laboratories, electricity and water were installed and the experimental programme was considerably extended. Cotton trials continued at Makanga, on the Lower Shire River, while at Bvumbwe tung experimentation and demonstrations of mixed farming were the two major activities, although preparations were also made for coffee and tea experiments and fruit-trees trials and an area was set aside for experiments on annual crops. The chemical laboratory was engaged on tung oil investigations and on the routine analysis of export consignments as well as on the analysis of soil samples from several areas.

At Mbawa, in the Mzimba District, where the station is run jointly by the Agricultural and Veterinary Departments, investigations in animal and crop husbandry proceeded with emphasis on mixed farming. A further 55 acres were cleared and maize variety trials and fertilizer trials, including the use of farm manure, were undertaken. The study of the control of *Brachystegia* scrub by means of herbicides continued but results, although inconclusive, were disappointing and indicated that chemical control of *Brachystegia* is unlikely to be successful.

At Nchenachena the reorganization undertaken in 1952, resulted in considerable progress. The coffee nursery planted in 1952 produced some 20,000 uniform seedlings while even better germination was obtained from the new nursery planted in August, 1953.

The sugar-cane experiments at Alimenda, originally established on behalf of Messrs. Booker Bros. were completed during 1953. Some trouble was experienced with salinity, which became the subject of a separate investigation; but the cane generally yielded well, giving an overall average yield of 50.42 tons of cane per acre from seven acres. Sugar content was, however, on the low side.

Investigations on the Vipya and Nyika Plateaux in the Northern Province have now confirmed that arable farming offers little prospect of development in these areas, which are better suited to development under forest.

As a result of the Palombe/Chilwa Development Project, under which a variety of crops such as paddy and wheat were tested, a pilot project was instituted during the year in the Lake Chilwa area to examine the prospect of establishing a 10,000 acre rice project. The scheme will cover 100 acres initially and will be financed from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds.

The scheme for the introduction of coconuts on the Lake-shore continued and further importations of seed were made from neighbouring territories.

Since 1951 research investigations have been carried out on insect infestation of bulk stored grain within the Protectorate. These investigations have been mainly concerned with maize as this cereal constitutes the most important basic foodstuff of the Nyasaland African. The range of primary, secondary and casual pests of stored maize has been assessed. Damage occasioned by these insects has been estimated by means of special surveys made in African villages, at maize buying markets and at central storage depots belonging to the Produce Marketing Board. At these same depots observations have been made on the effects of different insecticides in controlling the build-up of insect infestation in large stacks of bagged maize. Experiments in underground storage have also been undertaken and a full and detailed report is in the course of preparation. The research is financed from the Research Allocation of the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund.

From an agricultural point of view the three Government food farms, at Kakoma, Rivi-Rivi and Toleza, which were handed over to the Nyasaland Farming Corporation in 1952, had a successful year. A total of 1,058 acres were under crop at the three farms and 577 acres under fallow. Production amounted to 125 tons of maize, 47 tons of cotton lint, 44 tons of sorghum, 34 tons of sweet-potatoes, 13 tons of pigeon-peas, 12 tons of groundnuts, 7 tons of sunflower seed and lesser quantities of cowpea and castor seed.

#### VETERINARY AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The annual livestock census for 1953 revealed a cattle population of 273,348, of which 11,157 were European or Asian-owned; a goat population of 294,041, of which 617 were European or Asian-owned; a sheep population of 53,156 of which 1,668 were European or Asian-owned; and a pig population of 93,631, of which 1,484 were European or Asian-owned. In addition, there were estimated to be some 30 horses, 113 donkeys and a poultry population of some 2¼ million. These figures represent a decrease in the cattle population of 2.2 per cent. (although a slight increase in the number of cattle belonging to all three communities in the Southern Province was recorded); a decrease of 1 per cent. in the goat population; and an increase of 7.4 per cent. in the sheep population.

The main concentrations of African-owned cattle are to be found in the Lilongwe and Dowa Districts of the Central Province and the Karonga and Mzimba Districts of the Northern Province. Goats are almost entirely African-owned, being found mainly in the Central and Southern Provinces. Large numbers of African-owned pigs are found in the Lower River area of the Southern Province and in the Central Province.

Production of hides and skins during the year showed an increase over 1952 and amounted to 52,234 hides and skins weighing 426,475 lbs., compared with 46,417 hides and skins weighing 367,910 lbs. in 1952. A new feature of the industry in 1953 was the production of wet salted hides for export. These were mainly abattoir hides destined for the shoe industry of Southern Rhodesia. Other skins exported included 1,402 crocodile, 170 leopard, 108 game, 23 otter and 16 snake-skins.

Ghee production, which in the Northern Province is mostly in the hands of African co-operative societies, increased from 19½ tons in 1952 to 25 tons in 1953. This increase can be attributed largely to the advice and assistance given in the main producing areas in the Northern Province by officers of the Co-operative and Veterinary Departments, who made a determined and successful effort to influence production. With the removal of price control on milk in 1952 and the establishment of a more reasonable price, farmers were provided with a greater incentive to production and, in spite of an increase in the urban population, supplies were generally adequate. Production of butter by Africans decreased from 4,713 lbs. in 1952 to 2,283 lbs. in 1953.

The demand for meat in the Southern Province, particularly in the urban areas, continued to exceed supply. Proposals for the transport of cattle by Lake from Nkata Bay, in the Northern Province, to Chipoka and thence by rail to Blantyre were considered in 1952. In order to enable experiments to be undertaken it was necessary to prepare a stock route from Karonga to Nkata Bay. This has now been done and further experiments in the transport of cattle by Lake will be undertaken in 1954.

Figures of livestock, killed at the main centres during the year, were 16,584 cattle, 1,822 sheep, 11,290 goats and 6,381 pigs. Large numbers of livestock are also slaughtered in the rural areas; while these generally remain fairly constant it is significant that the number of pigs and goats slaughtered during 1953 showed a marked increase.

Hitherto production and marketing of animal products has mainly been undertaken by individual Africans, although in some cases, particularly in the Northern Province, producers have been organized into co-operative societies and in the case of hides and skins, assistance in marketing has been given by the Veterinary Department. There is, however, evidence that an increasing interest is being taken in stock-keeping and dairy-farming by European farmers and the importation of pure bred stock continues on an encouraging scale.

There were no major outbreaks of disease during the year; conditions for stock were, in fact, more favourable than usual, as is shown by the fact that in the Central Province only 2,028 deaths from disease were reported as against 3,726 in 1952. The outbreak of Senkobo (*Actinobacillosis*), which occurred in one of the large dairy herds in the Southern Province in 1952 proved extremely difficult to eradicate but some progress has now been made in its control. Sporadic outbreaks of rabies once more occurred in the Central and Southern Provinces. Anti-rabies vaccination with Fleury avianized vaccine was carried out on a voluntary basis and 933 dogs (mostly European-owned dogs in urban areas) were vaccinated. No case of rabies has yet been confirmed in a dog immunized with Fleury vaccine which might be attributed to a breakdown in immunity.

The establishment of the Veterinary Department in 1953 comprised a total of 27 Europeans, including the Director and Deputy Director, a Senior Animal Husbandry Officer, seven Veterinary Officers, four Livestock Officers, seven Assistant Livestock Officers, a Research Officer, a Livestock Marketing Officer and a Laboratory Technician. Five of these posts, were, however, unfilled. The African establishment of the Department numbered 240 in 1953, including Veterinary Assistants, Inspectors, Clerks, etc.

The facilities for research available at the laboratory were greatly improved during the year and the extent of infestation and the wide range of parasites, resulting from the high humidity and high temperatures found in Nyasaland are now being fully appreciated. Kenya fowl typhoid vaccine and Strain 19 contagious abortion vaccine were produced and the way was made clear for the production of a number

of other vaccines including those against heartwater, redwater and rabies which in due course should materially reduce the incidence of these diseases in the territory.

The principal animal diseases encountered in Nyasaland are carried by ticks, the high temperatures and humidity providing excellent environmental conditions for these parasites. Except for the Mzimba and Kasungu Districts the greater part of the livestock area is covered by an extensive system of dipping, involving the maintenance of some 76 dipping tanks in the African areas alone. As a result of investigations carried out during the year into the merits of power spraying, as compared to dipping in the control of ticks, the conclusion was reached that the dipping tank is still the best method of control and it is proposed that as soon as staff becomes available the system of dipping should be extended to the Mzimba and Kasungu Districts, thus covering the whole Protectorate.

During the last few years losses of stock from trypanosomiasis have dropped and in many areas, previously considered heavily infested by tsetse-fly, the fly have receded. For example, a small experimental herd of cattle was transferred to the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation Station at Chitala, on the Dowa Lake-shore, early in the year. Since its arrival this herd has thrived and the only case of trypanosomiasis diagnosed was almost certainly contracted on the way to Chitala and was subsequently completely cured. The progress of the tsetse survey is described in Chapter 14.

Excellent progress was made in the development of the three livestock improvement and animal husbandry centres, especially those in the Northern and Southern Provinces. Flocks and herds of indigenous livestock have been formed at these centres and are slowly but steadily being built up. At Mikolongwe, in the Southern Province, a good start was made on the scheme, resulting from experiments made in 1952, whereby pure-bred bull calves of European breeds are flown up from Southern Rhodesia, reared and sold to European farmers. Progress was also made with the creation of a poultry centre.

Most encouraging developments took place during the year in the improvement of housing conditions for stock. The poor quality of such housing has in the past been largely responsible for the high mortality among cattle in the territory, particularly among calves. As a result of propaganda and assistance some 5,000 to 6,000 separate calf *kholas* were built as well as many improved brick *kholas* for adult stock.

Among other schemes initiated during 1953 were one connected with the immunization of cattle against heartwater as well as smaller schemes covering the importation of donkeys and the investigation of the merits of power spraying in the control of ticks in African areas. Approval was also given during the year for a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme, providing for the construction of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Training Centres in each of the three Provinces. These centres will meet a long felt need.

## FORESTRY

The total area of forest and woodland in Nyasaland is estimated at just over 7,000 square miles of which 3,085 square miles is now State Forest Reserve. Owing to the markedly seasonal climate most of this forest consists of dry pine woodland similar to that which covers a large part of the surrounding territories; true closed forest is found to a limited extent in the areas of high rainfall, mostly as isolated relic patches on mountain tops and along streambanks. There is no doubt that the character of the forest vegetation has been greatly altered and modified over a long period by almost universal cultivation and burning and that the present small areas of true forest are only relics of much larger areas.

Although their extent is very limited, these forests are rich in useful timber species, notably the conifers, Mlanje cedar (*Widdringtonia whytei*), pencil cedar (*Juniperus procera*), of which one small forest still remains on the Nyika Plateau, and yellowwood (*Podocarpus milanjianus*). The Mlanje cedar has provided the bulk of the constructional timber used in Nyasaland ever since the eighteen-nineties. Of hardwoods the most valuable are mahogany (*Khaya nyasica*), a furniture wood which grows along streambanks and reaches a very large size, its associate Mwenya (*Adina microcephala*), a useful and durable constructional timber, and Mlombwa (*Pterocarpus angolensis*), found in the dry forests and the most valuable furniture wood in Central Africa. Many other useful kinds, including the African blackwood or ebony (*Dalbergia melanoxylon*), used for curios and ornaments, are found in the dry forests but rarely in sufficient quantity to allow large-scale working by modern methods. Almost the entire production of these hardwood timbers is done by African hand-sawyers.

The most valuable stands of timber in the country are found in the Mlanje Mountain Forest Reserves and in the Misuku Hills in the Karonga District. The latter contain valuable stands of mahogany and other timbers which have so far not been worked owing to inaccessibility.

A wide range of exotic trees can be grown in Nyasaland, including many species of pine, cypress and eucalyptus, all of which show a fast growth compared with indigenous varieties. Eucalyptus plantations are a feature of the landscape in the uplands of the Southern Province where they are extensively grown on private estates for poles and firewood.

Since 1948 there has been very considerable expansion of forest activities, the main tasks of the Forestry Department being the afforestation of hitherto unproductive land with useful timber species, especially indigenous and exotic softwoods; large-scale trials of useful exotic species suitable for the drier areas of the country, particularly the Central Province; the introduction of modern methods of timber extraction and utilization; the supply of sawn timber, poles and firewood for Government and the public; the selection and demarcation

of further areas of State forest; the survey of the forest estate; the training of African Staff; and the introduction of sound forestry and forest management generally.

Up to 1952 shortage of staff had hampered these activities to a great extent although much was achieved in laying the foundations for future development. Since that time, however, with the staff of the Department almost up to strength, it has at last been possible to make a real start on the tasks awaiting attention.

Good progress was made in afforestation during 1953, in spite of a very difficult season and near drought conditions in the Central Province, and the target was again exceeded. In most areas rainfall was very patchy and the number of planting days extremely limited. A considerable area at Nchisi and Bunda in the Central Province will have to be replanted owing to the failure of the rains. The total area of new plantings was 2,364 acres. In addition, a further area of clear-felled land was replanted and a number of new experimental plots were established. Gapping of the previous season's planting was carried out and completed. The total area of Government plantations now stands at 9,744 acres, mainly softwoods.

The plantations established by the Forestry Department are at eight centres, four in the Southern Province, three in the Central Province and one in the Northern Province. These are all young plantations where afforestation of hitherto unproductive land is being carried out, the aim being to expand them into eight working units of 3,000 acres each. With the exception of the Kanjedza Forest Reserve (500 acres) at Limbe, where the existing mixed crop of *Cupressus lusitanica* and other species is being converted to *Pinus patula*, all plantations are as yet in the stage of early thinnings.

The possibility of afforestation on the Nyika Plateau is under examination by the Colonial Development Corporation and trial plots of pine have been established.

The growth of young plantations, established since 1945, is highly satisfactory and leaves no doubt that Nyasaland, with its favourable climate and soil, is eminently suited for large scale afforestation both of softwoods and hardwoods which will give a high yield in a comparatively short time. For straightforward afforestation the best species have now been reduced to about six or seven, namely Mlanje cedar (*Widdringtonia whytei*), *Pinus patula*, *Pinus caribaea*, *Pinus pseudostrobus* and *Eucalyptus saligna* and *microcorys*. Trials of a number of other exotic species are continuing and it is planned to plant certain indigenous hardwoods such as Mvule (*Chloropha excelsa*) and Mbawa (*Khaya nyasica*) as soon as suitable nursery stock has been raised.

First thinnings from exotic plantations are made in the fourth year, in the case of eucalyptus, and in the sixth year in the case of *Pinus patula*, so that during 1952 and 1953 a limited quantity of saleable produce was extracted and sold from stands planted between 1946

and 1949. From now on the volume of such thinnings will increase rapidly as the larger areas planted since 1948 come into production.

The drier tobacco-growing areas of the Central Province are generally deficient in useful timber species and have been greatly denuded of woodland over the course of years, owing to the demand for firewood by the tobacco industry. In 1948 large-scale trials of useful quick-growing species were initiated and planting was begun at Lilongwe itself and also at Bunda Forest Reserve some 20 miles away. These trials are now showing very interesting results though final results cannot, of course, be obtained for a number of years. The tree which has so far shown the most promise at both places is *Gmelina arborea*, or Yemane, which is imported from India and south-east Asia and seems quite at home in the relatively dry area round Lilongwe. Others which have done well are *Dalbergia sissoo*, the Indian Shisham, a most valuable timber and fuel tree; Mwimbi (*Rauvolfia natalensis*), an indigenous tree; *Melia azedarach*, or Persian Lilac; and *Cassia siamea*. The last-named is, unfortunately, highly susceptible to frost which occurs almost annually in this part of the country.

With eucalypts, which are highly susceptible to both termites and frost, no success has so far been achieved at Lilongwe but at Bunda several species are showing fairly reasonable growth, including *Eucalyptus saligna* which normally requires moist conditions.

Forest management in Nyasaland is still in its infancy, intensive management being carried out only in certain State Forest Reserves under the control of the Forestry Department and on certain private estates. Of State forests the most important are those on Mlanje Mountain, where felling of Mlanje cedar is carried out by the Nyasaland Plywood Company under licence and under supervision of the Forestry Department. The aim of management on Mlanje Mountain is the orderly working of the old and over-mature stands on a 20 year cycle, with regeneration both by artificial and natural means following the fellings, the object being to make the maximum use of existing stands of timber, to replace them with a younger and more profitable crop and to extend the area to the greatest possible extent using the exotic *Pinus patula* as a preliminary nurse crop.

In the Limbe area the Imperial Tobacco Company's plantations of *Eucalyptus saligna*, amounting to some 3,000 acres, are under simple management, the system being clear-felling with replanting on a 15 year rotation. Establishment of further new plantations to complete the total area is still in progress.

There are numerous plantations of *Eucalyptus saligna* on other private estates but fellings mainly consist of scattered and haphazard cuttings when material is required and proper management on a sustained yield basis is not practised. Precise figures are not available but the area of plantations under private ownership is approximately 16,000 acres, mostly eucalyptus.

The following Table shows the number of sawmills in the territory, together with the approximate output of each:—

Location	Ownership	Approx. output (cu. ft. per annum)
Blantyre .. .. .	Government	(In course of) erection —
Limbe .. .. .	Imperial Tobacco Company Ltd.	150,000
Luchenza .. .. .	Nyasaland Plywood Company Ltd.	120,000
Chambe Plateau, Mlanje Mountain	Nyasaland Plywood Company Ltd.	
Mlanje .. .. .	Crozier and Wright Ltd.	30,000

There are also seven smaller mills with an annual output of less than 30,000 cu. ft. per annum and a number of resaw benches in various parts of the territory.

The forest industry in Nyasaland is still in the initial stages of organization and development. Production from State Forest Reserves and plantations is carried out by the Forestry Department, except in the Mlanje Mountain Forest Reserves, where production is in the hands of the Nyasaland Plywood Company. This concern also purchases supplies of *Eucalyptus saligna* from private estates. The company operated two Wyssen cableways on Chambe Plateau of Mlanje Mountain during the year, one for the extraction of logs to the mill, and one for the extraction of sawn timber off the mountain.

The Imperial Tobacco Company has its own modern sawmill in which it converts its own timber into hogshead staves, both for its own use in Nyasaland and for its associated company in Southern Rhodesia.

The other small mills listed above, several of which belong to Missions and produce small quantities of timber for local consumption, obtain their supplies from the Forestry Department, private estates or Mission property.

The only other privately owned woodworking plant is the plywood manufacturing plant, operated by the Nyasaland Plywood Company at Luchenza. Plywood production figures for the year are not available.

Elsewhere, on African trust land throughout the country, production of sawn timber is carried out by African sawyers under licence, using extremely primitive methods.

Work proceeded during the year on the store and mill shed in the Kanjedza plantations, which houses the Forestry Department's "Forestiere" bandsaw which has now been in full-time operation for over a year. This machine has been used for cutting softwood timber

for building works, squaring eucalyptus baulks for the Public Works Department, cutting hardwood cross-arms for the Electrical Services Department and also for emergency private orders for constructional timber.

Work also continued on the sawmill site at Blantyre. Levelling and earth moving were completed, together with the cutting for a railway siding. A start was made on the sawmill buildings. Installation of the timber impregnation plant was completed in July and the plant is now in operation but as yet only on an investigational and experimental scale necessitated by the lack of knowledge of the reactions of local materials such as eucalypt and pine poles.

On Zomba Mountain the Department's cableway worked full-time on the extraction of cedar and cypress logs, pine logs from thinnings and firewood. A Wyssen yarder was operated in the Kanjedza plantations, extracting cypress logs from flat ground on a high-lead system.

Total production of softwood timber in 1953 was 211,600 cu. ft., compared with 234,861 cu. ft. in 1952; hardwood production amounted to 288,800 cu. ft., compared with 225,382 cu. ft. in 1952. Of these figures 184,200 cu. ft. were poles. Existing production of timber and forest products is practically all consumed within Nyasaland, but recently a small export of plywood, plywood cases and building poles has developed. The total value of timber exported during the year was £30,750.

The demand for firewood continued to be high and consequently difficult to meet. Local building and tobacco industries absorbed a vast amount while the African population consumes annually a quantity of wood for domestic use and agricultural purposes which is known to be enormous. Production of firewood by the Department and other concerns during the year totalled 1,552,200 cu. ft.

The only minor forest products of any importance are charcoal, which is burnt by Africans, near the main townships where it is in great demand, strophanthus, beeswax and a form of gum arabic obtained from trees of *acacia karroo*. Interest in strophanthus slackened after the phenomenal demand in 1951 and only 5,397 lbs., valued at £1,743, were exported in 1953, compared with 6,710 lbs., valued at £2,910 in 1952 and 29,140 lbs. valued at £19,285 in 1951.

The European establishment of the Forestry Department in 1953 comprised the Conservator, ten Assistant Conservators, thirteen Forest Assistants, a Mechanical Superintendent, a Works Supervisor and a Secretary/Accountant, a total of 27. The African establishment totalled 401, including three Forest Rangers, 55 Foresters and 139 Forest Guards. Several of these posts remained unfilled during the year, including one Assistant Conservator of Forests, nine Foresters and two Forest Guards.

The Forestry training school at Dedza, inaugurated in 1952, had

a satisfactory first year's operation and 15 students successfully completed the course; 14 Government foresters and one private student, nominated by the Dutch Reformed Church Mission.

There is at present no branch of the Forestry Department specifically engaged in research. Experimental work, such as that at Lilongwe and Bunda, is carried out by officers of the Department as part of their field duties. An application for a grant from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund was, however, made during the year in order to initiate much-needed silvicultural research in the territory. The scheme envisages the appointment of a trained silviculturist to conduct investigations in the field throughout the Protectorate.

Only one new forest reserve was declared during 1953, to replace an existing reserve and the total of such reserves remained at 66. Proposals for the establishment of two further reserves in the Central Province, at Ngara and on the Kaombe River, were discussed by the Central Province Natural Resources Board and were nearing finalization by the end of the year.

Survey of the plantations on Zomba Mountain was begun during the latter part of 1952 and continued during the first three months of 1953. Survey and demarcation of the Mugesse Reserve in the Karonga District was completed during the year and in other areas progress with the survey of reserve boundaries was made.

### FISHERIES

The main sources of fish in Nyasaland are Lake Nyasa, Lake Chilwa and the Shire River in its lower reaches. A certain amount of scientific investigation of resources has been undertaken but much work remains to be done. The Fisheries Research Scheme, referred to below, is expected to produce valuable results in this sphere. Reliable statistics are scanty but those which are available suggest that Lake Nyasa could produce some 15,000 to 20,000 short tons of fish annually on a sustained yield basis. Lake Chilwa should produce about 2,000 short tons annually, judging by the nature and depth of the water and by analogy with the better known parts of Lake Nyasa. How far the Lower Shire output can be extended is not at present known, although it seems probable that the river potential is well exploited. The industry on Lake Chilwa is capable of some expansion while that on Lake Nyasa is very poorly exploited save for the south-east arm.

Commercial firms submit returns of landings, which are practically all from Tilapia stocks in the south-east arm of Lake Nyasa. Their total landings in 1953 were just over 2,000 short tons, compared with 1,978 tons in 1952; methods used were purse seines and ring nets—mostly the former. Attempts to encourage a commercial fishing industry in the Central Province have not yet met with success.

Reliable statistics of African landings are not available but from observations at a number of recording stations annual production from Lake Nyasa is of the order of 2,000 to 3,000 short tons; from Lake

Chilwa 1,000 short tons; and about 400 short tons from the lower reaches of the Shire River. Africans fish inshore for the most part, using seine nets, but to an increasing extent they are fishing offshore using gill nets.

The overall value of the fish caught by Africans and non-Africans during the year is estimated at £90,000.

Produce is largely sun-dried and then hot-smoked or dry-salted; a proportion is sold fresh at the Lake-shore or transported fresh to the more populous areas of the Southern Province. A considerable amount of fish was exported in the years prior to 1949 when, owing to the threat of famine, export was prohibited. The salted fish produced was mainly for the export market and small quantities were permitted to leave the Protectorate in 1951, 1952 and 1953. In 1953 exports amounted to 2,159 lbs., compared with 3,581 lbs. in 1952; export was mainly to Northern Rhodesia.

A good deal of the African produce is sold to local consumers on the beach, bartered for other foodstuffs or distributed among the members of the fishing teams for their personal needs. The trade in fish, which is surplus to local requirements, is almost entirely in the hands of small-scale itinerant buyers, buying on the Lake-shore and retailing inland at high prices. Broadly speaking, the African fishery is not a purely commercial activity, it is rather a subsistence activity with a commercial side to it, which becomes more prominent towards the south end of the Lake. There were indications, however, during the year of a few Africans tackling the problem in a truly commercial spirit and these efforts are being carefully watched and fostered.

There is no separate Fisheries Department in the Protectorate but control is exercised by the Fisheries Section of the Game, Fish and Tsetse Control Department. The section comprised in 1953 three European Officers, viz. a Fisheries Officer, a Fish Ranger and a Trout Warden and 35 Africans, including 23 Fisheries Assistants and six Trout Guards.

The staff of the Fisheries Section continued with their efforts to develop African fisheries, chiefly through the distribution and sale of gear and the construction of plank boats to replace dugout canoes. There was a fair response to the sale of gear and the action has at least served to introduce African fishermen to the use of nylon nets. There is a big demand for the plank boats and orders far exceed present possible production. The chief stumbling block is now not lack of interest on the part of African longshoremen but lack of plank timber with which to build the boats. Both the schemes for the sale of gear and for the construction of boats are financed from Native Development and Welfare Funds.

The trout hatchery, opened in the Northern Province in 1951, continued to flourish. There was some further stocking of the three Northern Province streams selected for development and it is hoped to

open these streams for fishing in 1954. Surveys in the Southern Province revealed considerable possibilities on the streams of the Kirk Range.

Destruction of crocodiles by private enterprise continued and a total of 1,203 crocodiles were destroyed. Just under half of these were trapped by Africans and sold to the commercial operators.

The Fisheries Research Team, which had been assembling at Fort Rosebery in Northern Rhodesia, arrived in the Protectorate during the year and was installed at Nkata Bay in September. The team will conduct a two-year investigation into the natural history of the fish in the area, the fish population, the production capacity of different methods of fishing, the means by which these may be improved and the maximum sustained yield obtained. The scheme is being financed by a grant from the Research Allocation of the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund.

A small experiment in fish farming was begun at the site of the trout hatchery and a start was made on the collection of basic information concerning the behaviour of local species in impounded waters. Similar experiments are being conducted in the Lower River area so that some information can be obtained about behaviour at the two extremes of the local climate.

#### MINING AND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

By virtue of the Nyasaland Protectorate (African Trust Land) Order in Council, 1950, the entire property in minerals in African trust land, save for land which has been alienated by the Crown and land in respect of which prospecting and mining rights subsist, is vested in the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to be controlled by the Governor for the use or common benefit, direct or indirect, of the African inhabitants of the Protectorate. The Governor may, subject to existing Protectorate legislation, make grants to search for and work minerals, but in so doing shall have regard to general African interests and, before making any grant for the working of minerals, shall consult the Native Authority of the area concerned.

The British South Africa Company hold mineral rights over large areas of the Protectorate, covering the Karonga District and part of the Nkata Bay District in the Northern Province and the Kasungu, Kota Kota, Lilongwe and Dedza Districts and part of the Dowa District in the Central Province.

The Commissioner of Mines may, under the Mining Ordinance, issue prospecting rights and register claims while the Governor may grant exclusive prospecting licences and mining leases. Prospecting rights (and exclusive prospecting licences) and claims allow the recipients to prospect and mine respectively for a period of one year. Mining leases permit mining for specified periods.

Royalties are payable in respect of minerals extracted; if on

African trust land, outside the British South Africa Company's areas, the royalties are payable to the Native Treasury concerned or to the Native Development and Welfare Fund or partly to both, as may be directed by the Governor in Council, such portion as may be determined by the Governor, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, being paid into general revenue; if on the Company's land, 50 per cent. of the royalties is payable to the Company.

Comparatively little mining activity has hitherto taken place in the Protectorate and development waits on the completion of the mineralogical survey now being undertaken and the discovery of deposits of economic importance. The following minerals are, however, known to exist—asbestos, bauxite, coal, corundum, graphite, ilmenite, kyanite, mica, apatite, galena, monazite and pyrochlore.

At the end of 1953 three mining leases were extant, for the production respectively of corundum, kyanite and stone and other non-precious minerals. In addition, four claims, seven exclusive prospecting licences and 19 prospecting rights were issued during the year. Two of the claims related to kyanite production and two to asbestos.

Considerable interest was shown in 1952 by two companies of wide repute in the mining world in the deposits of rare earth minerals, pyrochlore and monazite, which exist in the southern part of the Protectorate, and intensive prospecting was undertaken during 1953 in the Southern Province and the Ncheu District of the Central Province. Examination of the various problems connected with the possible exploitation of the bauxite deposits of Mlanje Mountain also proceeded. Initial shipments of kyanite were sent to the United Kingdom during the year, total exports amounting to 1,382 tons. No corundum was exported during the year.

No processing of minerals is at present undertaken in the Protectorate.

There is at present no separate mining department in Nyasaland but a Commissioner of Mines is appointed under the Mining Ordinance and this post is held by an officer of the Secretariat.

The Department of Geological Survey in 1953 comprised the Director, five Geologists, a Drilling Superintendent, five Drillers, three Wells Maintenance Officers, a Mechanic and a Storekeeper/accountant, a total European establishment of 17. The African establishment of the Department in 1953 numbered 184, including Field Assistants, Drivers, Drill Supervisors, Well Supervisors, clerks and labourers.

The geological mapping of the Southern Province continued and a further 1,700 square miles was covered, thus completing the geological survey of the southern half of the Shire Valley. Investigation of the old volcanic vents known as “ring structures” was continued and many interesting features concerning their structure and the minerals contained in them were brought to light. Bulletin No. 5, which was the first official bulletin of an African Geological Survey Department to describe such structures as carbonatites, is being reprinted and a further

publication, dealing with the present investigations and the later discoveries concerning the nature and origin of the rings, is in the course of preparation. As mentioned above, two mining companies are interested in the minerals associated with these vents.

In the field of water supplies the Department's drilling units made good progress in 1953 and 71 boreholes were sunk in various parts of the Protectorate. The fact that this was less than in 1952, when 98 boreholes were sunk, was due to the greater average depth of the holes drilled in 1953. The total footage drilled, at 10,062 ft., was in fact approximately the same as that drilled in 1952.

### MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

There is little manufacturing activity in the Protectorate. The main local industry is the manufacture of cigarettes and tobacco. The principal firm concerned is the United Tobacco Company whose factory is situated at Limbe. Production of the more popular brands increased slightly during the year.

Local soap manufacturers, principal among whom is the Citrona Soap Company, a subsidiary of Lever Brothers, produced 1,212 tons of soap in 1953, compared with 1,023 tons in 1952.

Other minor industries, which include the manufacture of plywood and its associated products, clothing manufacture, the manufacture of tea, tobacco and rubber shoes and the manufacture of solid brilliantine all maintained their production at approximately the same level as in 1952.

The new firm of "Tyresoles (Nyasaland) Ltd.", which opened a factory in Limbe in 1952 for the retreading of tyres, had an extremely successful first year's business and is undoubtedly supplying a long-felt need in the territory.

Among handicrafts carried on are carpentry, ivory and wood carving, pottery, basketry and the weaving of mats; none of these, however, is sufficiently far developed to be styled an industry; mat weaving, for example, is to the male Yao much what knitting is to a European woman. The products of these crafts play an important part in village life and, apart from this, they find a ready market among tourists and European residents in the Protectorate, either for utilitarian purposes or as curios.

No State aid is given in respect of these crafts nor are there any credit societies connected with them. Government does, however, run cobbling and tanning courses at Lilongwe for those Africans who are desirous of setting up in business in the cobbling trade.

### CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

At the beginning of 1953, 71 societies were on the register. During the year three new societies were registered and the registration of two societies and one union was cancelled. Two of the new societies were

dairy producer societies and one was a rice growers' society. The societies whose registration was cancelled were consumer societies and the union was a Union of Coffee Producer Societies. The numbers and membership of societies on the register at the end of 1953 were as follows:—

<i>Type of Society</i>				<i>Number of Societies</i>		<i>Membership</i>
(i) PRIMARY SOCIETIES						
Consumer	..	..	..	26	..	1,551
Maize Milling	..	..	..	1	..	38
Timber Sawyers'	..	..	..	1	..	20
Coffee Producer	..	..	..	2	..	189
Rice Growers'	..	..	..	4	..	1,338
Dairy Producer	..	..	..	33	..	1,010
TOTAL PRIMARY				67		4,146
(ii) SECONDARY SOCIETIES						
Unions of Consumer Societies	..	..	..	1	..	21
Unions of Dairy Societies	..	..	..	2	..	29
Unions of Rice Societies	..	..	..	1	..	4
TOTAL SECONDARY				4		54
GRAND TOTAL				71		4,200

The outstanding feature of the year was the rapid development of the Kilapula Co-operative Union and its four member societies of rice growers. The three original primary societies and the Union were registered in 1952 to market and process the rice crop from the Songwe Plain in the Karonga District. In 1953 a fourth society in the Deep Bay area was also registered. The organization was fortunate in 1952 in having a good season at a time when the rice market was favourable and in that year 1,100 tons of paddy were handled. The result of a successful year's trading meant that the societies were able to pay a substantial bonus and a great stimulus was given to production. The 1953 crop handled amounted to just over 2,000 tons of paddy while an even larger acreage has been prepared for planting during 1953 so that a further increase in production may be expected. The Committee of this Union has shown considerable business acumen and has been careful to set aside sufficient reserves from its surplus to complete an ambitious programme for storage accommodation and the acquisition of tractors. Experiments in tractor ploughing by contract were started in 1953 and the response from members was most encouraging. By 1954 the Union expects to be in a position to maintain a steady ploughing service throughout the season. The Union has also placed an order for new milling machinery and expects to be able to go into full production as soon as the 1954 crop is harvested.

The two Unions of Dairy Producer Societies did well during 1953. The Bulambiya Ghee Producers Co-operative Union increased its membership to 16 dairy societies. Owing to unfavourable climatic conditions production fell during October, November and December.

The Union, however, handled the satisfactory total of 18,000 lbs. of ghee during the year. The rise in the retail price of ghee enabled societies to increase payments for milk delivered and the Union has now established itself free of loans and is a going concern. The Kasitu Valley Ghee Producers Co-operative Union also increased its membership by one to a total of thirteen member societies and three further societies were forming at the end of the year. Production of ghee in this area is steadily increasing and the higher price now being paid to members for their milk has given a useful incentive to production. The Union handled 12,700 lbs. of ghee in 1953, compared with 7,000 lbs. in 1952.

The primary societies of cattle-owners vary greatly in the efficiency of their management and book-keeping. These societies consist of small groups of cattle-owners, most of them elderly men with little education, and it is not always easy to find anyone capable of keeping the necessary records. Accordingly, it has been found necessary to simplify the system of records and to centralize much of the book-keeping. These dairy societies are, however, truly co-operative in character and have been useful in improving the economic position of cattle-owners in distant and poorly served areas.

The Nchenachena and Misuku Coffee Producer Societies made satisfactory progress and a great many new gardens were opened up during the year. The Union of Coffee Producer Societies, which included these two societies, was found to have been started too soon. The societies are so widely separated that it was found impossible to make the Union work with any degree of reality. Furthermore, there was nothing that the Union could do which the established Northern Co-operative Union could not do as agent for the societies. Accordingly the registration of the Union was cancelled and the marketing of coffee was undertaken by the Northern Co-operative Union on behalf of the societies. This arrangement is working satisfactorily and will continue until such time as coffee production justifies a separate organization. The Northern Co-operative Union hopes to set up a small coffee curing factory at its headquarters at Rumpi, where it will be strategically placed to accept delivery of the parchment coffee from both societies.

The Northern Co-operative Union of Consumer and Producer Societies had a satisfactory year's trading and was able to increase the range of consumer goods offered. The Union was first formed in 1950, in order to maintain a steady flow of consumer goods of high quality at competitive prices. During the last three years the character and emphasis of the Union's business has altered and now its most important function is as transporter for the Coffee and Ghee Producer Societies. It also acts as agent for all the producer societies. The consumer side of the Union's business is restricted by the failure of the small consumer societies, many of which will have to be liquidated in the near future, so that transporting and agency work is becoming more and more important to it. The Union is paying its way and is providing a valuable service to its member societies.

Consumer societies with exclusively African membership have made no progress during the year. There is still insufficient skill in business management to make this type of society a success. Few societies have a big enough turnover to enable them to employ a well-educated manager. The one consumer society with exclusively European membership had a very successful year with a turnover of nearly £24,000 and a membership of 358. This latter society is truly co-operative in character in that it does business only with its members.

Co-operative societies in the Protectorate are controlled and supervised by the Department of Co-operative Development. In addition to headquarters staff at Zomba the Department has officers posted in the Northern and Central Provinces whose duties are to visit, advise and assist co-operatives or would-be co-operatives in their areas.

## Chapter 7. Social Services

### EDUCATION

The Education Department had an establishment in 1953 of 39 Europeans, two Asians, 107 Africans and five Eurafricans. The European Staff included the Director, Deputy Director and nine Education Officers as well as the European Staffs of the Jeanes Training Centre (now renamed the Government Teacher Training Centre, Domasi), the African Secondary School at Dedza and the European primary schools. The Eurafrican Staff was composed of the staff of the Government Eurafrican School. One of the Asians was an Inspector of Schools and the African Staff included eight Inspectors of Schools and 22 headmasters, masters, instructors and teachers.

The Governor is advised on educational policy by four separate committees for African, European, Asian and Eurafrican education respectively. Each committee contains representatives of the section of the community concerned. In addition, each district has an education committee which advises the Director of Education on local matters. Educational policy is implemented under the supervision of the Education Department, which inspects all schools, controls and maintains Government schools, conducts Government and public examinations and pays all local educational grants.

The Department's first five-year plan for 1945/1949 aimed at laying the foundations of a ten-year expansion programme. As a result of the educational survey, which was completed in 1950 and which covered all existing facilities for African primary education in every district, vital information was acquired, on a local basis, of what was needed for the development and consolidation of the primary school system in the Protectorate. An agreed expansion programme was drawn up for each district, detailing the development to be carried out year by year from 1950 to 1954.

Education is not at present compulsory for children of any race in Nyasaland but many Native Authorities in the Central and Northern Provinces have made Rules for the compulsory attendance of those African children who have enrolled in assisted schools.

African primary education is still predominantly in the hands of the Christian Missionary Societies, who began teaching before there was any settled Government in Nyasaland, but a few primary schools are now conducted by Native Authorities and by estate-owners with the help of Government grants-in-aid. Similar schools, maintained by local communities with Government help and managed by local committees, have been begun in several areas. The development of these "community schools" is being watched with interest as they are the

direct results of efforts made by the people themselves to establish and run schools for their children. The primary course comprises a junior primary section of five years, followed by a senior primary course of three years. The teaching of English is fully begun in the third year but there is so great a demand for this language, which is looked upon as the key to the door of progress, that oral lessons are often given to children in their second year of schooling.

There are approximately 4,418 primary schools for Africans ranging from unassisted village schools (which must be officially registered but are not otherwise subject to the supervision of the Education Department) to senior primary schools which, provide an eight-year course up to Standard VI. About one-sixth of the total number of primary schools are aided financially by Government and of the total school population enrolled, which in 1953 was about 135,053 boys and 88,514 girls, these aided schools contain about 38 per cent. All aided schools are subject to frequent inspection by members of the Education Department.

During the year the recommendations made as the result of the survey were further implemented and of the 708 assisted African primary schools in the Protectorate 114 are now senior primary schools, taking pupils to Standard IV or Standard VI; 532 are junior primary schools, taking pupils to Standard III; and the remaining 62 are village schools with classes up to Standard I.

There are three African secondary schools in the Protectorate. Two of these, at Blantyre and Zomba, are financed by Government and controlled by Boards of Governors. They take pupils to school certificate level. During 1953 the enrolment at these two schools numbered 137 boys and eight girls. The third secondary school was opened at Dedza in 1951 and is under Government control. Unlike the other two schools, Dedza runs both academic and technical courses; a commercial wing was opened in 1953. The school is well equipped for technical instruction and has a highly qualified staff, including six European teachers. Starting with 20 pupils in 1951, by the end of 1953 the school had an enrolment of 105, of whom 49 were taking the academic course, 48 were technical students studying carpentry, building or mechanics and eight were studying at the new commercial wing. The academic course aims at the Cambridge Overseas School Certificate.

In addition to the three secondary schools there are five junior primary schools for Africans of which two are Catholic Seminaries. These provide a two-year course up to Standard VIII. It should also be noted that a considerable number of Nyasaland scholars attend secondary schools in other territories to which they make their way under the auspices of the missions or by their own efforts. Correspondence courses for post-primary study are also very popular.

Supplementing the work of the Education Department in the sphere of technical education, various other departments maintained

their own technical courses during 1953. These are described in the relevant sections of this Report and summarized at the end of Chapter 2. In addition, preliminary arrangements were made during the year for the establishment of a trade school at Mpemba, in the Southern Province, and money for the purpose was provided from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. A Principal arrived towards the end of the year.

The 1945 census showed that 5.59 per cent. of the African population was literate in the vernacular and 0.96 per cent. in English. These figures are thought to be conservative, seeing that in the later years of the war army recruits were found to be about 20 per cent. literate and moreover the census figures took no account of the considerable number of adults employed in other countries. It is estimated that about half of the country's children attended school for a short period between the ages of five and eighteen; the great majority, however, never pass beyond the lowest classes.

The number of successful entrants for Government examinations continued to show an upward trend during the year. Comparative figures for 1952 and 1953 are:—

	1952			1953		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Standard VI . . . . .	459	29	488	485	40	525
Standard VIII (Junior Secondary)	63	—	63	79	5	84
Vernacular Grade (Teachers) . .	100	26	126	—	44	44
English Grade (Teachers) . .	97	13	110	119	13	132
Higher Grade (Teachers) . .	14	—	14	22	1	23

In the academic year 1948/1949 age-limits governing admission to Sub-standard A and Standard IV of the primary course were introduced for the first time; no boy was allowed to enter Sub-standard A if he were over nine years old nor to enter Standard IV if he were over fifteen years old. These limits were later lowered to eight and fourteen years respectively and extended to include girls, with the proviso that no girl admitted to an assisted school should be turned out on account of age if her conduct and progress had been satisfactory.

To meet the needs of the younger children who thus became pupils at assisted primary schools it was necessary to re-cast the syllabus which had been in use for the previous seven years. The new syllabus was introduced into all assisted schools in the school year beginning in October, 1952, after several intensive short courses had been held by Missions to explain to teachers the changes involved. Reports indicate that the syllabus is proving popular in the field on account of its wider basis and greater emphasis on the practical aspects of education.

It is safe to say that the reasons for the age-limits are now understood by the majority of the African population, although some of the more conservative Chiefs still complain that their "children", aged about 18, have been deprived of education because of them. As the over-age pupils are replaced, wastage through marriage and employment are reduced and instead of the 1945 Standard VI pass list of 113, averaging 19 years old, more than 1,000 boys and girls should be completing their primary course in 1955 by the age of 15; a corresponding increase is anticipated in the number of pupils passing through the secondary schools and instead of one or two proceeding each year to higher studies there may be as many as 20.

One result of the age-limit rule was the greatly increased demand for adult education and the ways in which this problem is being tackled are described later in this Chapter.

European primary education is provided by five primary schools, situated at Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe, Limbe and Mkhoma. Of these, the first three are the responsibility of the Education Department while the last two are conducted by Missions with financial aid from Government. Boarding facilities are available at Blantyre, Lilongwe, Limbe and Mkhoma for a limited number of children up to the age of 11. In addition, correspondence courses are provided free of charge, through the generosity of the Southern Rhodesia Government, for Nyasaland children who are unable to attend schools.

European parents are encouraged to send their children over the age of 11 (*viz.* the end of primary schooling) to schools outside the Protectorate, partly for reasons of health, but mainly for the advantages to be gained from mixing in groups of children of their own age in larger schools than can be developed in Nyasaland. An annual grant ranging from £37-10s to £57-10s, according to place of residence, is paid to parents in respect of each child between the ages of 11 and 18 who is attending school in South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Kenya or Tanganyika. In addition an automatic grant of £37-10s is payable for each child between 11 and 18 attending school in the United Kingdom provided that the fees charged in such schools are not lower than the current boarding fees in force in Southern Rhodesian Government secondary schools (at present £75 per annum).

Owing to the high rate of immigration by European children into Southern Rhodesia over the past few years, it has become impossible for school accommodation in that territory to keep pace with the demand. In order to meet the immediate problem, therefore, primary school facilities in the Protectorate have been increased to cope with the larger number of children of primary school age.

At the end of 1953 there were 465 children enrolled in European schools in the Protectorate, 290 in the Government schools and 175 in the aided schools. The former were staffed by 12 teachers and the latter by eight. Thirty-two children were taking the correspondence course and 300 were at schools elsewhere in Africa.

There are ten Asian schools in the Protectorate of which eight received Government grants during 1953. Total enrolment at the aided schools was 685. Staff at these schools has been strengthened in the last few years by recruiting qualified teachers from India, a grant of £50 towards the passage of each being paid by Government. The appointment of an Asian Inspector of Schools in 1951 has done much to raise the standard of instruction. An improved syllabus, based on that used in Kenya, has been introduced and the technique of the weaker teachers has been improved.

Government operates a full range primary school in the Blantyre area for children of mixed race as well as for any Asians who care to attend. The school, which was opened in 1946 with 16 children, now has an enrolment of 117 under a Principal and three assistant teachers. Boarding accommodation is available for some 30 pupils. No tuition fees are charged at the school. Bursaries are available for any children in this group attending schools in Rhodesia and South Africa whose parents are unable to meet the fees.

The total expenditure on education for all races from public funds was approximately £335,998. Of this amount £296,862 (of which £15,080 was reimbursed by Native Treasuries) related to recurrent and special expenditure and £39,126 (of which £17,907 was paid by Native Treasuries) related to capital expenditure. Grants-in-aid in respect of African, European and Asian education amounted respectively to £200,320, £817 and £6,924. In addition to the above, Missions and other voluntary agencies spent approximately £90,000 on education during the year. The method in which Native Treasuries contribute to the cost of African primary education is described in Chapter 3 of this part of the Report and, as there stated, the whole system of financing African primary education is shortly to be revised. Of the total expenditure on education for 1953 it is expected that £42,000 will be reimbursed from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds.

Government provides university scholarships, the value of which depends on the needs of the recipient and the type of university course which he or she attends. In 1953 there were 21 holders of such scholarships. Seven were held by Africans in South Africa, 11 by Europeans in Africa and the United Kingdom and three by Asians in India. Seven of the holders were taking arts, five science, five medicine, two veterinary science, one agriculture and one architecture. In addition, seven scholarships, financed by a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds, were held during 1953, three by Africans at Makerere and London, and four by Europeans in the United Kingdom. One of the holders was taking arts, one science, one agriculture, one veterinary science and two nursing. Nine Africans also held scholarships at Indian universities, five given by the Government of India and four by private Asian donors. Six of the holders are understood to be taking arts, one science, one commerce and one engineering.

Teacher training is undertaken by the missions at ten centres and at one Government institution—the Government Teacher Training

Centre at Domasi. In 1953 the Mission centres were attended by 435 students and the Government centre by 94 students. One hundred and ninety-nine students successfully completed their course and entered the teaching service. This figure is a considerable reduction on the 1952 figure of 250 and the 1951 figure of 270 and is inadequate for the efficient maintenance of existing schools. In order to make the teaching service more attractive, conditions were improved during the year by substantial increases in salaries, bringing them into line with the salaries of Government employees, increases in monthly allowances and improvements in housing.

The institution, formerly known as the Jeanes Training Centre, was renamed the Government Teacher Training Centre, Domasi, as its sole function is now the training of teachers. This is at present the only centre at which teachers are trained for the highest of the three grades of certificate awarded by Government, namely the Higher Grade Certificate. Seventy-eight out of the 94 students at Domasi were taking the course leading to this certificate. The other certificates are the English Grade and the Vernacular Grade. The latter is now only taken by women students as the qualification for entry, Standard IV, is regarded as too low and, apart from this, the operation of the age rules in the primary schools has ensured that all boys are beyond this Standard before they are old enough for professional training. The age rules were applied later to girls and the Vernacular Grade course will be closed completely when they too pass through Standard IV in their early 'teens.

During the last four years nine selected Africans have taken a one-year course at the Colonial Department of the Institute of Education at the University of London; one of these took a further course in the teaching of English as a foreign language. The latter is now on the staff of the Universities Mission to Central Africa, six others are Government Inspectors of Schools and the remaining two are on the staff at the Domasi Community Development Centre.

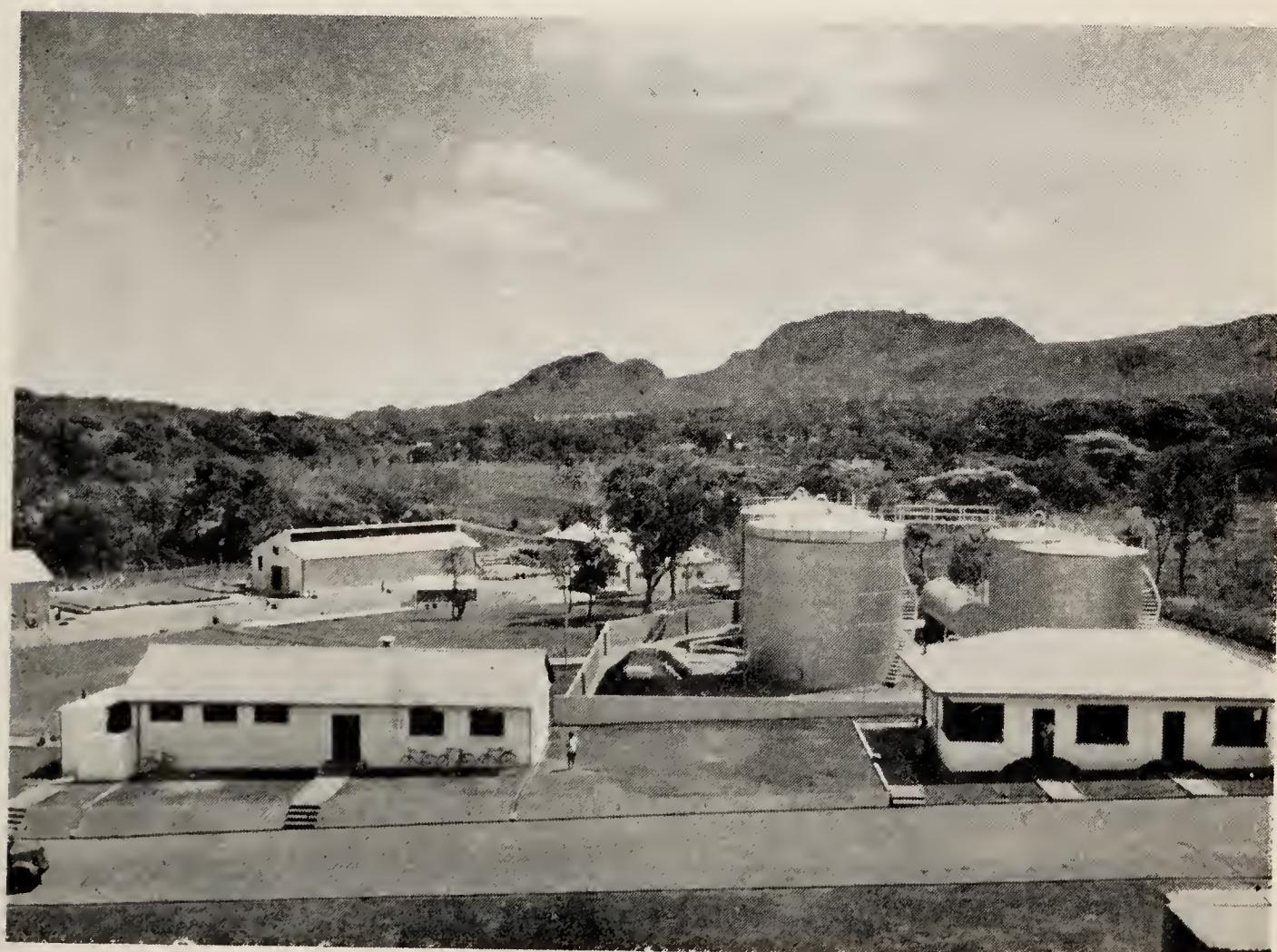
As stated above, the exclusion of over-age pupils from primary schools created a greatly increased demand for adult education and efforts have been made to satisfy this demand by various means.

The Domasi Community Development Scheme, run by an experienced administrative officer with a small team of experts and fully described in Chapter 14, includes experiments in the establishment of what are called "hedge" schools, giving instruction in the three R's to large groups of children and adults who have otherwise received no formal education, with the object of teaching them to read, write and count in as short a space of time as possible. In other areas primary school teachers again took classes for over-age pupils in their spare time and "night schools", providing instruction in the afternoons or evenings, continued to function in some seven centres.

In addition to these expedients, periodic mass literacy drives are organized, particularly by the Dutch Reformed Church Mission, while



**Communal effort to check soil erosion**



**Commercial development : Bulk petrol storage, Blantyre**



**Air excursions bring holiday-makers to Lake Nyasa**



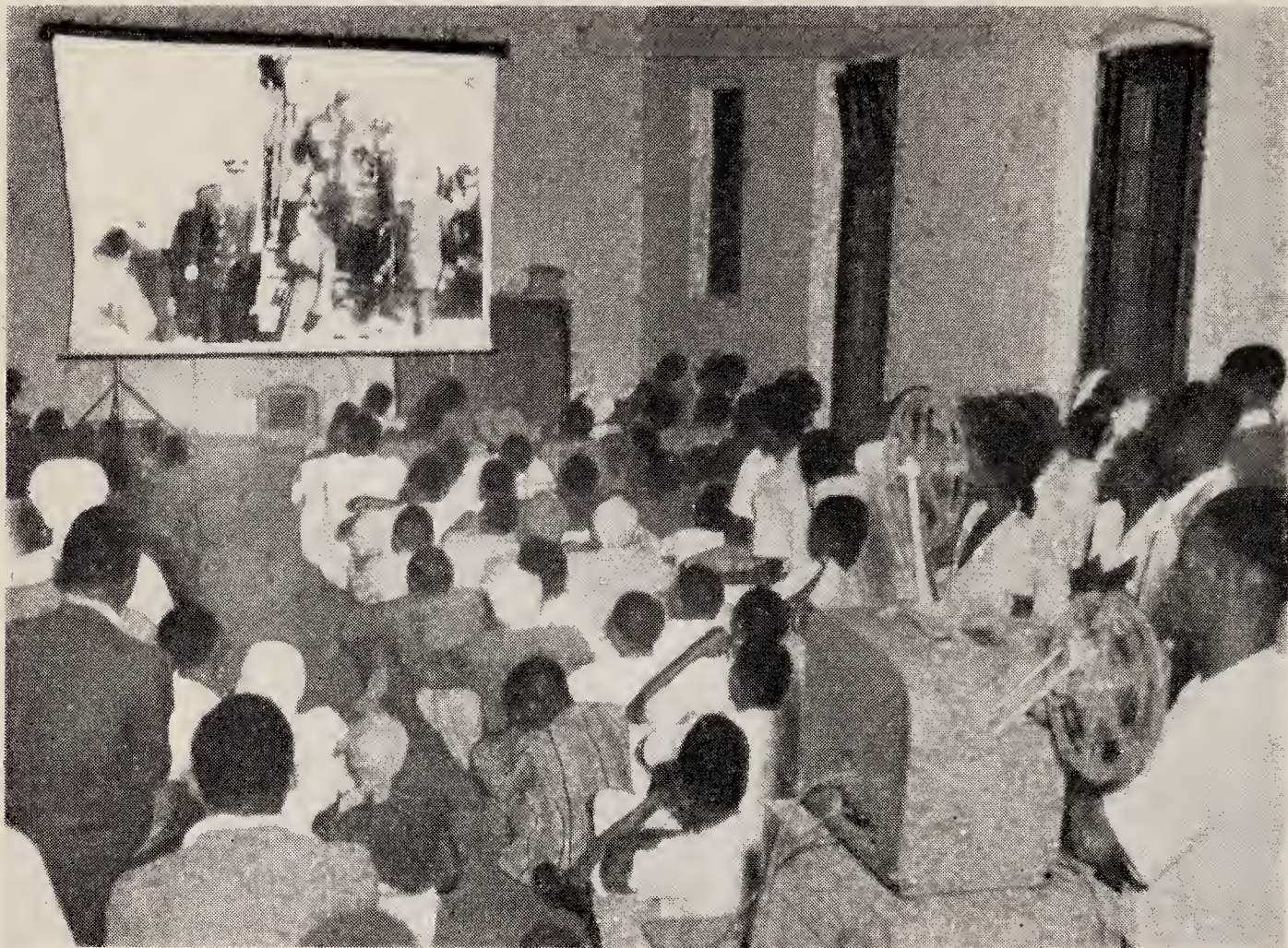
**The floating dock on Lake Nyasa**



**Coronation Day Parade, Limbe, 2nd June, 1953**



**Health Services : Vaccination campaign in the villages**



**Mobile cinema units show educational entertainment and news films in rural areas**



**Rice-growers sell their paddy to the Kota Kota Produce and Trading Society, Kota Kota District**

literature in two vernaculars and in English is being supplied in increasing quantities by the Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland joint Publications Bureau and is now on sale throughout the Protectorate. The Bureau maintains a full-time business manager stationed at Limbe and branches are now open at Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe, Mzimba and seven other centres. Contact with a still wider public has been made through the many stores operated by the African Lakes Corporation and through the bookshops of the Dutch Reformed Church Mission, the Church of Scotland Mission (Livingstonia), the White Fathers' Mission and the Universities Mission to Central Africa. Publications are also on sale at all district headquarters. The Public Relations Department assists by the production of a weekly newspaper, *Msimbi*, which contains news and articles in English as well as in each of the main vernaculars. During 1953 the circulation of *Msimbi* stood at about 7,500, each copy of the paper having at least five readers. This and other newspapers available to African readers are described more fully in Chapter 12.

### HEALTH

In the absence of a full-scale survey, the statistics obtained from Government and Mission hospitals and from dispensaries can provide no more than a limited knowledge of the incidence of disease in the Protectorate and no more than general trends can be discerned. The recording of African vital statistics, of necessity in the hands of Native Authorities, is also imperfect. It is, however, safe to say that there was no deterioration in the health of the community during the year.

That this was so may again be attributed in part to the favourable agricultural season, which enabled the African population to maintain its nutritional standard at an average level. The local African has always suffered the disabilities resulting from a diet that is, by European standards, poorly balanced owing to shortage of good class proteins. In this respect, however, Nyasaland is perhaps better placed than her neighbours in that fish can be comparatively easily obtained. Unfortunately, the distribution of fish is at present poorly organized and this aspect of the nutritional problem is being investigated.

The demand by Africans for more curative services in rural areas has continued. In order to meet it the first requirement is an increase in trained staff and the training facilities available are described later in this Chapter. Even the provision of additional staff and hospitals, however, can but touch the fringe of the problem when it is remembered that, since the advent of peaceful administration, the population has been increasing at an estimated annual rate of over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. In all these, the endemic diseases of malaria, bilharzia, hookworm, venereal disease, leprosy and filariasis are rife and the curative services available become more and more thinly spread over increasingly populated areas which lack even the economic ability to provide adequate preventive facilities and services.

In these social conditions, where disease flourishes, where lack of funds and staff limit the indefinite extension of curative services and where large scale preventive measures are economically impossible, the main approach must necessarily be to lead the population to a knowledge of the causes of disease and of the methods of prevention which they themselves, with the primitive resources at hand, can apply. In order to evolve a method of approach, suitable for application throughout the Protectorate, investigation continued at the Domasi Development Centre during the year. A Medical Officer was posted to the area for full-time duty in 1952 and in 1953 the health survey of the general population was completed by an investigation into the incidence of intestinal parasites. This proved to be comparatively low. On the completion of the general survey, work commenced on a survey of schoolchildren, treatment being given where required. At the same time it was possible to carry out a cross check on the results of the general survey, to correct survey methods in the light of experience and to attempt to develop a preventive system against bilharzia for village use. The results of the year's work are being assessed and correlated.

The system of domiciliary visits by hospital assistants and medical aides attached to rural dispensaries continued and fell into a more definite routine. These visits, on which not only are the sick treated but talks and demonstrations on simple health matters are also given, are proving of great value in maintaining contact with the villager and, to some extent, in spreading existing curative services over wider areas. Lectures and demonstrations were also given at the Local Government Training School at Domasi and this contact with Chiefs, Councillors and other influential Africans is likely to be of great importance.

Malaria, bilharzia, hookworm and relapsing fever continued to levy their toll on the working capacity of the population. Although the communities affected, particularly adults, have acquired a high degree of tolerance to these diseases, it is recognized that the substantial effort nowadays required to provide a regular cash income is likely to contribute to the eventual destruction of this tolerance.

The total number of cases of malaria reported in 1953 was 22,272 with 18 deaths. Anti-malarial drugs can be purchased at Post Offices at landed cost and this form of distribution is the most effective way possible of making these drugs readily available to the public. Purchases from Post Offices during the year amounted to £2,864. The Vector Control service was extended and the organization improved so that the majority of centres of population in low-lying areas can be treated regularly with residual insecticides. In the townships of Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba and Lilongwe, anti-larval measures continued; where necessary African sections of the townships were treated with insecticides.

Returns from Government institutions recorded 6,475 cases of

bilharzia but this figure gives no idea of the actual prevalence of the disease. At Kota Kota, drainage work continued and at Domasi, in connection with the survey described above, particular attention was paid to bilharzia as this was judged to be the most important public health problem in the area. Treatment in schools, using Miracil—D and the application of copper sulphate to areas of snail breeding took priority. Shallow wells, pools in stream-beds, used for ablutions and laundry, and the main crossings were plotted, surveyed for snails and treated with copper sulphate. The work continues and it is as yet too early to assess the results from which it is hoped that a simple and economic plan of control can be formulated for routine application in rural areas.

The incidence of hookworm is known to be high in low-lying and humid areas. The extent of the morbidity caused and the true incidence have not been assessed and opinions on the subject vary widely. In order to combat this and similar diseases, efforts have been made over the past years to improve the standard of village sanitation. These efforts are bearing fruit and considerable advances have been made in the provision of family latrines. Native Authorities are increasingly aware of the importance of proper sanitation in controlling worm infestations and are taking steps to enforce their own legislation on the subject, inflicting fines for non-compliance.

Four hundred and eight cases of relapsing fever were reported during the year, of which eight were fatal. The attack by residual insecticides on the tick-vector of relapsing fever was continued in the centres of high endemicity with considerable success. The disease is firmly entrenched in many scattered villages in the endemic areas and the widespread use of gammexane under village conditions requires a high degree of co-operation. Experimental work in the Northern Province was pursued and there was evidence that Native Authorities were evincing a more active interest in the problem. During a series of short refresher courses for sanitary capitaos demonstrations of the use of gammexane-sawdust mixtures were given and arrangements were made for Native Authorities to purchase gammexane.

Of the formidable communicable diseases smallpox is the only one which has ever reached epidemic proportions in Nyasaland. The incidence has, however, decreased considerably in recent years as a result of organized vaccination campaigns undertaken since 1948. In 1953 only six cases were reported, compared with nine in 1952, 122 in 1951 and 295 in 1950. The vaccination campaign was continued during the year and 325,426 vaccinations were performed. In conducting the campaign particular attention is paid to one Province each year and the whole Protectorate is thus covered in a period of three years. Lymph production continued and was expanded, exports to Southern Rhodesia being maintained. In place of glycerinated lymph the laboratory produced lanolated lymph, which has proved greatly superior under field conditions in the Protectorate.

A number of small epidemics of whooping cough occurred in different areas but the disease was not nearly so severe or lethal as in previous years. The cases occurred mainly in the villages and only the more severe forms were brought to hospital. Epidemic centres were visited and medicines were distributed by hospital assistants and medical aides. Advice regarding isolation and nursing care was also given. A total of 1,105 cases with 28 deaths were reported.

Small epidemics of measles also occurred in scattered areas, 480 cases with 15 deaths being reported. Twenty-six cases of cerebro-spinal fever with six deaths were recorded; the cases were mainly sporadic and there was no epidemic outbreak.

In 1952 sleeping sickness reappeared in the Chikwawa District after a number of years' absence. In 1953 three further cases, one of which was fatal, were reported from the same area. Regular inspections were carried out and close liaison was maintained with the Portuguese authorities in the contiguous district to the west. The early detection and treatment of cases has so far proved the most effective measure of control in the relatively small population group affected.

The leprosy survey, carried out in 1950 by the East African High Commission Leprologist, revealed an incidence of 14 per thousand of the population, giving an estimated total of 30,000 lepers in the Protectorate at that time. Of these 22 per cent. were estimated to be highly infectious and 30 per cent. easily curable with sulphone therapy.

The control of leprosy received a great stimulus during the year as the result of a legacy by Mrs. M. H. D. Brown and Miss M. A. Brown. Under an order made by the High Court the Brown Memorial Fund was established and a Board of Trustees instituted. The value of the estate was £220,000 and the objects of the Fund are to assist all measures, including research, that will eventually bring leprosy in Nyasaland under control. Capital grants totalling £22,000 were disbursed during the year to Mission and Government leprosy institutions.

The free issue of sulphone drugs for the treatment of leprosy was extended and many more leprosy patients than previously, were brought under effective treatment. At the end of the year 1,473 such patients were undergoing treatment in Mission settlements, an increase of 173 over the figure for 1952.

The building of the Government leprosy settlement called *Kocira* ("Healing") near Fort Manning went ahead at full capacity and ten staff quarters and 14 patients' houses had been erected by the end of the year. Stores, sheds and other ancillary buildings were in use and estate clearing had been begun.

An allocation from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund was approved in order to make possible a detailed survey of the distribution and incidence of leprosy in the Protectorate. From the factual knowledge, which will thus be acquired, it will be possible to formulate a satisfactory control programme.

A yaws campaign was conducted in the Karonga District during the year as a result of reports of an increasing incidence over the previous two years. A survey of 7,259 persons revealed an incidence of 4.93 per cent. The survey was followed by a treatment campaign, consisting of the "one-shot" injection of penicillin. Results were sufficiently encouraging to justify the planning of a follow-up campaign in 1954.

Three hundred and eighty-six cases of tuberculosis were reported during the year, of which 26 were fatal. The extent of the disease is still unknown but more data is being accumulated and certain facts are beginning to emerge. Investigations into sensitivity rates and the clinical types of the disease encountered continued and indicated that only 12 per cent. of hospital cases are in the early stages; 20 per cent. are chronic fibrotic cases with cavities, usually very infective; the remaining 70 per cent. are advanced acute cases which require a long period of hospitalization.

An analysis of the cases of tuberculosis, admitted to the Zomba African Hospital, has shown that they come from villages throughout the Protectorate and has suggested that there is no significant tribal distribution. The occupations of those affected are mainly clerks, teachers and agricultural workers.

Since the introduction of modern methods of treatment by chemotherapy combined with streptomycin, Africans have realized that there are prospects of cure. The result has been an increasing pressure on hospital beds and in order to ease the situation the larger hospitals of Zomba and Lilongwe are now being used as centres for the assessment and early treatment of cases. These are the only two hospitals which can undertake radiological control. Once cases are stabilized they are evacuated to district hospitals where supervision can be continued and out-patient treatment carried on until the patient is eventually discharged.

A World Health Organization consultant is due to visit Nyasaland in 1954 to advise on the initiation of a tuberculosis service.

A steady increase in the number of cases of venereal disease treated has been reported in recent years but this is probably due to a greater awareness of the efficiency of the treatment rather than to an increase in incidence. Free drugs for the treatment of venereal disease are supplied to all Missions undertaking this work and penicillin is made available for the treatment of pregnant women and congenital syphilis.

A total of 1,498 cases of pneumonia were reported during the year with 78 deaths. Despite the use of antibiotics in all hospitals the high death rate continues. The reason is that patients are generally not brought into hospital until the last stages have been reached and every other remedy has been tried without success.

Eye diseases, diseases of the respiratory and digestive systems and skin diseases, make up the bulk of the complaints reported. Some 12

per cent. of the patients treated at Government hospitals are diagnosed as suffering from tropical ulcers.

Major signs of deficiency disease are infrequently seen but the minor stigmata are relatively common. As could be expected, kwashiorkor occurs throughout the Protectorate but a precise evaluation of the incidence and distribution has not yet been made. The staple diet of the African population is maize or cassava with such fruit and vegetables as are in season. Fish is readily obtainable on the Lake-shore but inland supplies are limited and prices high. The demand for meat greatly exceeds the supply. Groundnuts are readily consumed when available.

In 1953 the European establishment of the Medical Department totalled 77 and included the Director, his Deputy, an Assistant Director (Health), a Surgical Specialist, a Medical Specialist, a Pathologist, two Senior Medical Officers, two Dental Surgeons, two Laboratory Technicians, a Radiographer, a Leprosy Settlement Supervisor and 22 Medical Officers. Of the last-named, one Medical Officer is appointed to the leprosy settlement and one to the mental hospital. The nursing establishment includes a Principal Matron, 23 Nursing Sisters, a Wardmaster Instructor and two Mental Nurses. The sanitary establishment consists of a Chief Health Inspector and five Health Inspectors. Five Medical Officers were appointed during the year and it was thus possible to maintain the number of Medical Officers at the satisfactory 1952 level, which had been reached after a number of years. For the first time a Provincial Medical Officer was stationed in each of the three Provinces, those in the Central and Southern Provinces being of the grade of Senior Medical Officer while in the Northern Province the duties were carried out by the Medical Officer in charge of the African Hospital at Mzimba. The Asian establishment of eight comprised two Senior Sub-assistant Surgeons and six Sub-assistant Surgeons. The African establishment of the Department totalled 1,156 and included one Assistant Medical Officer, 64 Senior Hospital Assistants and Hospital Assistants, 235 Medical Aides, 63 Senior Sanitary Assistants and Sanitary Assistants, 47 Clerks, 18 Nursing Orderlies and 49 Midwives.

Outside Government, 15 Mission doctors continued work during the year and also a number of nursing sisters, many of whom had the sole charge of a hospital. Full-time medical officers were employed by the Colonial Development Corporation in the Northern Province, the Nyasaland Railways, the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association (who employed two) and the Rhodesia Native Labour Supply Commission. Eleven private practitioners were also on the register during the year.

Training of staff continued at the Government training schools at Zomba and Lilongwe. Improvements were effected at Zomba where a new midwives' hostel was opened by His Excellency in February. This provides dormitory accommodation for 22 pupils, a bedroom and

sitting-room for an African warden as well as a common room, dining-room, kitchen and laundry. The opening of this hostel enabled the school for hospital assistants and medical aides to be rearranged to give more classroom and dormitory accommodation. In addition a common-room and canteen were provided. An African warden for the men's training school was appointed and assumed duty. At the School of Hygiene improvements to the teaching section consisted of the addition of a workshop and a graphic museum.

There were six students taking the hospital assistants' course at Zomba during the year of whom five passed the final examination; ten further students were accepted for the 1953/54 course.

On the medical aides' course at Zomba, there were 28 first-year and 21 second-year students; of the latter, 14 qualified during the year and three were selected for the hospital assistants' course. At Lilongwe there were 25 first-year and 13 second-year students; of the latter, 11 qualified during the year and three were selected for the hospital assistants' course. This makes a total of 87 students in training during the year of whom 25 qualified and six were selected for the further course.

At the School of Hygiene in Zomba there were six students in the first-year of training as sanitary assistants and six students in the second-year; of the latter, four qualified during the year.

Training of midwives is largely a Mission responsibility, although midwives are also trained in the Government training school at Zomba. They receive a two-year course, the first-year comprising general nursing and the second, practical midwifery. In 1953 eight of the 12 students in the course for Class II midwives passed the final examination held by the Midwives Board. There are now six students in the second-year of the course and during October a further 13 pupils were admitted to the first-year. From Mission training schools 37 girls sat the final examination for Class III midwives and of these 28 qualified and were enrolled. The majority of midwives, after qualifying, are attached to Government or Mission institutions but some take up private practice in rural areas. In order to ensure that standards are maintained, a supervisory authority, consisting of two or more persons qualified in midwifery, has been set up in each major district, charged with the general oversight of the work.

Government expenditure on Medical Services during the year amounted to £251,717, recurrent and special, and £23,363 capital. Of the recurrent amount it is expected that £35,000 will be reimbursed from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds. Expenditure by town councils on Medical Services was estimated at £12,580 (Blantyre £7,000, Limbe £3,000 and Lilongwe £2,580) and expenditure by Native Authorities at £3,285.

There are 19 Government African hospitals in the Protectorate with accommodation for 1,249 patients. Each hospital has a number of satellite rural dispensaries of which there are 93 in the Protectorate.

Many of these dispensaries have rest-houses attached to them for the use of patients coming long distances for treatment or for those who require prolonged treatment, although not sufficiently seriously ill to warrant admission to hospital. Nine of the Government hospitals are in charge of European medical officers, five are supervised by Asian sub-assistant surgeons and five of the smaller hospitals are administered by African hospital assistants.

Two new health centres, similar to the existing centres at Kaphuka and Salima, were opened during the year. One is at Mitundu in the Lilongwe District and the other at Mwanza in the Southern Province. The existing centres continued to increase in popularity. All four centres are staffed by Africans trained in the Protectorate.

The various Missions, which pioneered most of the medical work in Nyasaland, continued in 1953 to maintain a number of hospitals, clinics, dispensaries and leper colonies. Statistics of the accommodation in Mission hospitals are not available but it is estimated that they provide approximately 700 general beds. In August an Advisory Committee on Missionary Medical Work was constituted. The Committee met twice during the year, its terms of reference being "to advise Government through the Director of Medical Services, on all aspects of the medical work of the missions in Nyasaland; and to promote closer co-operation between Government and the missions in the furtherance of this work".

There are three Government hospitals for Europeans in the Protectorate, at Blantyre, Zomba and Lilongwe, containing a total of 38 beds. There are also two beds available for Europeans at the Seventh Day Adventist Mission at Malamulo, in the Cholo District. The European population is concentrated mainly in the Shire Highlands area of the Southern Province, the plateau areas of the Central Province and the Vipya Highlands of the Northern Province. Once again malaria was the commonest ailment among Europeans but the incidence and severity of the more malignant types have been greatly reduced by the use of modern prophylactic drugs and insecticides.

The Asian population is distributed more widely through the territory and special wards for their treatment are available at the Government hospitals at Blantyre, Zomba and Lilongwe and at the Cholo Mission Hospital.

The preparation of contract documents for the first stage of a new 800 bed group hospital at Blantyre was almost completed at the end of the year. The hospital is estimated to cost £750,000 and will be the main curative and clinical research centre for the Protectorate, as well as providing facilities for the training of medical assistants and general nurses.

The construction of the new mental hospital at Zomba was completed with the exception of the interior decoration, lighting and services.

Legislation was enacted during the year to implement the recommendations of the Committee, appointed in 1951 to review the procedure for the detention and treatment of criminal lunatics and for the supervision of the chronically insane who are unfit to be released to the care of relatives. The new legislation provides for the discharge of certain classes of mental patients to institutions, such as those run by Missions, the object being to ensure, as far as possible, that the new mental hospital should function as an efficient curative unit rather than as a depository for incurable mental cases.

#### HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

The African population is largely housed in its traditional wattle and daub dwellings of round or oblong design. These are often extremely primitive, but year by year a steady improvement in the standard of African housing may be noticed. Wattle and daub houses now more frequently contain windows and have a separate kitchen and pit latrine. The more progressive African is clearly influenced by African housing of a permanent pattern provided by Government and large industrial undertakings and more and more houses are being constructed of burnt brick with wooden doors and glazed windows. The average size of houses is also increasing. European-type bungalows are by no means infrequently found on the outskirts of a traditional wattle and daub village; they are often tastefully decorated and well maintained.

In the towns, where industrial undertakings are situated, employers often maintain their own workers' settlements, which compare favourably with those in neighbouring territories. A notable example is the African housing estate erected by the Imperial Tobacco Company at Limbe, which is a model of its kind. Generally speaking, employers have improved the type of house, as well as the recreational facilities and other amenities provided for their workers, but there is no cause for complacency in this respect.

Once again priority was given to the construction of quarters for Government African Staff and 304 quarters were completed by the Public Works Department at various stations throughout the Protectorate. European housing, nearly all of the bungalow type particularly adapted to suit local conditions, also made good progress and 21 new houses were completed by the Public Works Department. In addition three houses for Asian officers were constructed.

There are only four townships of any size in Nyasaland—Blantyre and Limbe (which, being only five miles apart, are in effect one), Zomba and Lilongwe. No acute problems of overcrowding exist at present but commercial and Government development dictate the planning of what will in time become high density residential areas in order to avoid the evils of overcrowding at a later date.

Town and Country Planning legislation empowers the Governor in Council to declare planning areas and to appoint planning committees

to prepare schemes for the development of the area, with regard to securing proper conditions of health, sanitation, communication, amenity and convenience in the laying out and use of land. Outline schemes, if approved by the Governor in Council, are executed by the planning committee concerned.

In 1949 the Blantyre/Limbe area was declared to be a planning area and in 1950 a planning committee, including in its membership representatives of the European, Asian and African communities, was appointed. The outline planning scheme, prepared by the committee was approved by the Governor in Council in 1951 and detailed schemes in respect of the high density residential areas were approved in 1953.

The planning scheme was further implemented during the year by the demarcation of various sites and by investigating and finalizing on the ground some seven miles of new main roads, which were considered essential for the proper routing of public services in conformity with the plan. Investigations were also undertaken with a view to effecting control of development within the planning area but outside the township boundaries. The organization of the high density residential areas was further advanced. In general the rate of development in the Blantyre/Limbe area showed signs of acceleration with a tendency to erect buildings of improved design and general finish.

Lilongwe was declared a planning area in 1951 and a committee was appointed, similar in constitution to the Blantyre/Limbe Committee. An outline planning scheme was prepared but certain modifications were found to be necessary. These were effected in 1953 and the plan was deposited under the terms of the Ordinance early in 1954.

At Nkata Bay further town planning investigations and surveys were made. Detailed plans were prepared for the police barracks, post office and shopping areas.

With a view to the establishment of a township, primarily to accommodate a new Provincial headquarters at Mzuzu, in the Northern Province, preliminary investigation was carried out.

The layout plan for a trading centre and post office site at Monkey Bay was completed and is now being implemented.

The Town Planning section of the Secretariat is stationed at Blantyre and consists of a Town Planning Officer and a Draughtsman. During the year the section was fully occupied with the town planning matters outlined above. The recurrent costs of the section during the year were £3,242 and in addition the sum of £18,498 was spent on the purchase of land in the Blantyre/Limbe planning area.

#### SOCIAL WELFARE

There is no Department of Social Welfare in Nyasaland and the widespread and differing forms of social welfare work, which are at present undertaken, are included in the activities of various Government departments, Missions and European voluntary organizations. Problems of social welfare are necessarily more complex in the Southern

Province with its rapidly increasing African urban population, concentrated to a large extent in the Blantyre/Limbe area. To meet the needs of this urban population a Social Welfare Advisory Committee for the Southern Province was set up in 1950, consisting of officials and non-officials (including three Africans, one of whom is a woman). This committee is charged with co-ordinating the activities of Government and voluntary agents in the field of social welfare; in addition it acts as an advisory body to Government concerning policy for the area and makes recommendations on any immediate action necessary. District Social Welfare Committees have now been formed in all the Southern Province districts.

During 1953 the Advisory Committee met four times and made recommendations regarding (a) the provision of funds for social welfare purposes; (b) courses for voluntary welfare workers; (c) over-age school children in towns; (d) children in need of care and protection; (e) accommodation in mental hospitals; (f) probation services; (g) the Zomba recreation hall; and (h) the Blantyre Convention of Welfare Clubs.

A woman social welfare officer is attached to the office of the Provincial Commissioner, Southern Province, and since 1949 she has devoted herself to the supervision and initiation of social welfare work of various kinds, though her primary work has been among African women and the supervision of African community workers. These selected Africans have been trained at the Jeanes Centre and, on returning to their villages, their duties are to teach their fellow villagers something of the high standard of discipline and social responsibility which they have learnt at the Centre.

The Welfare Officer reports that in most districts of the Southern Province there has been a growing interest in organized social welfare activities, especially among the African community. Africans have on the whole worked together better than in the past. A grant was made during the year for social welfare projects and during February a course was held for voluntary women social welfare workers. The increased enthusiasm, noticeable in most of the 16 Women's Institutes in the Southern Province during the year, may be partly attributable to the instruction given on this course.

A description of the Domasi Community Development Scheme, financed from Colonial Development Welfare Funds, is given in Chapter 14.

Community centres, including reading-rooms, large halls and playing-fields, have now been established in many districts with financial aid from the Native Development and Welfare Fund. The centres are run by African committees but supervised in most cases by District Commissioners. During the year a large and much needed welfare hall was constructed at Lilongwe at an approximate cost of £14,000; it will be brought into use in 1954. A welfare hall was also constructed at Nkata Bay.

The importance of youth movements is recognized and the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements in the Protectorate are financially assisted by Government. Provision is made in the estimates for a full-time Organising Commissioner for Boy Scouts. Scouting and Guiding are becoming increasingly popular with Africans and during 1953 there was a further improvement in the quality of work done by scouts and guides. There are now 53 Scout Groups in the Protectorate with a membership of over 1,600, comprising 1,200 scouts and senior scouts in 49 troops, 320 wolf cubs in 41 packs and 74 rover scouts in six crews, as well as 100 group scouters and 50 executives; all sections of the community are represented. Scout Groups were formed in Cholo and Mlanje during the year and scouts continued to take part in most important local events, particularly the Coronation celebrations which took place in June. Girl Guides now number approximately 1,000, distributed in guide companies and brownie packs throughout the Protectorate, nine of the guide companies being situated in the Southern Province.

The Boys' Brigade and its sister organization, run by the Church of Scotland Mission, also continued to flourish. The effects of a short course for young officers of the Boys' Brigade, held late in 1952, were seen in increased efficiency and enthusiasm.

A number of European voluntary societies, such as the Red Cross Society and the Nyasaland Council of Women, undertake social welfare activities in many spheres. In 1951 a local committee of the British Empire Society for the Blind was set up and the work already done for the blind by the South African General Mission is now receiving recognition and financial assistance from Government. The Mission maintains at Lulwe a school for the blind which, during 1953, had 30 adults and 33 children under training. The Zambesi Industrial Mission runs an orphanage at Mitsidi.

Apart from the activities of the various departments concerned and the grants made by Government to the above-mentioned social welfare organizations, financial assistance is also given to the King's African Rifles Memorial Home and provision is made for the relief of necessitous civilian cases. Government contributed half the capital cost and also a proportion of the annual recurrent expenditure of a home for elderly Europeans which was established in 1950. The British Empire Service League as usual watched over the interests of ex-servicemen of all races and was in a position to give financial assistance in cases of need.

Juvenile delinquency is not at present a great problem in Nyasaland. Probationary work is governed by the Probation of Offenders Ordinance, under which a Principal Probation Officer and some 52 Voluntary Probation Officers are appointed, many of whom are Africans. The post of Principal Probation Officer is at present held by the Welfare Officer attached to the office of the Provincial Commissioner, Southern Province.

## Chapter 8. Legislation

Forty-nine Ordinances were enacted during 1953. The more important include:—

The Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 6 of 1953), which provides that sentence of death shall not be passed on a person who was under the age of 18 years at the time of the offence. A further provision makes it an offence to solicit or collect money publicly without the prior consent in writing of the District Commissioner.

The Control of Dogs (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 19 of 1953), which empowers the Governor in Council to make Regulations providing for the compulsory immunization of dogs in any area of the Protectorate. Such Regulations in respect of township areas were only introduced during the year.

The Game Ordinance (No. 26 of 1953), which replaces the previous Game Ordinance and contains up-to-date and comprehensive provisions regulating the hunting and preservation of game animals and the establishment and maintenance of national parks in the Protectorate.

The Penal Code (Amendment) (No. 3) Ordinance (No. 28 of 1953), which revises many sections of the Penal Code and makes them more appropriate to present-day needs. In particular intimidation and proposing violence at an assembly are now made specific offences.

The Police (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance (No. 29 of 1953), which effects similar improvements to the Police Ordinance and makes detailed provision for the regulation of public meetings and processions.

The Local Government (District Councils) Ordinance (No. 48 of 1953), which makes provision for the establishment of statutory multi-racial councils at district level, including the election of councillors. The Ordinance is one of the most important which has been enacted in recent years and marks a considerable advance in the development of local government in the Protectorate.

In addition, 212 Government Notices were published during the year, containing notification of appointments and subsidiary legislation in various forms. Some of these were of considerable importance, for example the Federal Electoral Regulations specifying the manner of election of the Nyasaland members of the Federal Assembly.

## Chapter 9. Justice, Police and Prisons

### JUSTICE

The Courts of the Protectorate are of the two types; the High Court and the Courts subordinate thereto, and Native Courts, the constitution, duties and functions of which are explained later in this section.

The High Court has jurisdiction over all persons and over all matters in the Protectorate. Subordinate courts are nominally of the first, second, third and fourth class with jurisdiction over all persons and varying powers. Courts of the first class are held by Provincial Commissioners and at Blantyre, Limbe and Lilongwe by Resident Magistrates. The second, third and fourth class courts are presided over by District Commissioners, Assistant District Commissioners and cadets respectively in each district.

The Criminal Procedure Code confers on subordinate courts a limited jurisdiction. Courts of the first and second class may try offenders for any offence under the Penal Code or any other law other than treason, misprision of treason, instigating invasion, murder and manslaughter but any sentence exceeding 12 months imprisonment awarded by a first class court and six months imprisonment awarded by a second class court is subject to confirmation by the High Court. The sentences which may be imposed by a third class court are limited to six months and those of a fourth class court to one month (except in cases of tax-default when it may award two months). The graver crimes are tried by the High Court after a preliminary enquiry by a subordinate court.

In civil matters courts of the first and second class have jurisdiction in all matters in which the amount or value in dispute does not exceed £200 and £100 respectively. Courts of the third and fourth class have similar jurisdiction to a maximum of £25.

In all cases, civil and criminal, to which Africans are party, the court is guided by native law and custom so far as it is applicable and so far as it is not repugnant to justice and morality and not inconsistent with any Order in Council, Ordinance or any legislation subordinate to such Order or Ordinance. All such cases are decided according to substantial justice without undue regard for technicalities of procedure and with the minimum delay.

The High Court may call for the records of any case, held before a court subordinate to itself, in order to satisfy itself as to the legality and propriety of the proceedings and the sentence.

Appeals from subordinate courts in civil and criminal matters lie to the High Court. Appeals from the High Court in civil and criminal

matters lie to the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Court of Appeal, which holds regular sessions at Salisbury, Livingstone and Blantyre.

The Chief Justice of the Protectorate arranges regular circuits three or four times a year and so far as it is possible fixes the venue of a trial in or near the district in which the alleged crime was committed. On circuit he also inspects the court books and files of subordinate courts. He is *ex officio* Visiting Justice of the Central and district prisons of the Protectorate.

The number of civil proceedings heard in the High Court during 1953 was 145, compared with 124 in 1952, 108 in 1951 and 138 in 1950. The majority of these represented civil actions and applications for probate or letters of administration. Five were petitions for divorce or separation and ten were petitions in bankruptcy.

Thirty-eight criminal cases were heard during 1953 by the High Court, compared with 39 in 1952. Of these, 17 concerned murder (17 in 1952), one attempted murder, 18 manslaughter, one doing an act intended to cause grievous harm and one pretending to exercise the profession of witchcraft. Of the 39 persons involved, six were acquitted and 30 were convicted either of the offences with which they were charged or of lesser offences. Thirty-eight appeals were heard of which six were allowed, 28 were dismissed and one was withdrawn.

In the subordinate courts a total of 1,214 civil cases were heard during the year, compared with 1,039 in 1952. The great majority were heard in the urban areas of Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba and Lilongwe. In addition, 12,401 persons were tried by subordinate courts for criminal offences in 1953, compared with 13,369 in 1952. The main offences are tabled below, together with comparative figures for the three previous years:—

#### PERSONS TRIED IN SUBORDINATE COURTS

	1950	1951	1952	1953
Attempted murder and suicide ..	—	1	3	1
Rape .. .. .	—	6	4	4
Assault occasioning bodily harm ..	100	135	167	163
Simple larceny .. .. .	641	462	547	481
Burglary, housebreaking, etc. ..	316	357	349	367
Larceny by servants .. .. .	439	427	466	344
Receiving stolen goods .. .. .	95	102	110	94
Arson .. .. .	39	32	74	63
Forgery .. .. .	85	75	122	94
Native Tax Laws .. .. .	9,415	8,457	6,763	4,930
Forest Laws .. .. .	99	379	155	440
Firearms Laws .. .. .	109	76	180	135
Liquor Laws .. .. .	382	406	330	352
Township Laws .. .. .	311	525	519	269
Motor Traffic Laws .. .. .	329	382	699	410
Witchcraft Laws .. .. .	4	4	19	52
Public Roads Laws .. .. .	1,705	1,560	809	953
Diseases of Cattle Laws .. .. .	27	4	22	737
Plants Diseases Laws .. .. .	2	—	26	180
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>16,105</b>	<b>15,574</b>	<b>13,369</b>	<b>12,401</b>

Of the 12,401 persons tried, 1,101 were acquitted or otherwise discharged, the remainder were convicted. Of those convicted 5,846 were sentenced to a fine or to imprisonment in default and paid the fine, 2,980 were similarly sentenced but were unable to pay the fine, 1,899 were sentenced to imprisonment without the option of a fine, nine to whipping, 118 were discharged, owing to their tender years or the trivial nature of the offence and 142 were bound over.

Forty-seven juveniles came before the courts during 1953, compared with 45 in 1952. Generally speaking they were charged with petty theft. Ten juveniles were committed to the approved school in 1953 as against seven in 1952.

The Native Courts Ordinance, 1933, provides for the setting up of Native Courts under the jurisdiction of the Native Authorities. The courts are constituted in accordance with the native law or custom of the area in which they have jurisdiction, though the Provincial Commissioner may, with the approval of the Governor, prescribe the constitution of any Native Court or the order of precedence among the members thereof or the powers and duties of any persons acting as assessors to any court in his Province. In accordance with custom no Chief sits alone to hear cases; he is aided by assessors. The assessors either sit by hereditary right or are selected on account of special wisdom or aptitude. The composition of the courts is not laid down in the Ordinance nor in the court warrants. The court assessors receive a fixed salary from the Native Treasury.

The whole country is within the jurisdiction of Native Courts, except for proclaimed townships and such areas as the Governor may order. The practice and procedure of Native Courts is regulated in accordance with native law and custom subject to any rules which may be made by the Governor. Warrants defining the jurisdiction and powers of the courts are issued by Provincial Commissioners.

In general the jurisdiction of Native Courts is limited to "cases and matters in which all the parties are Africans and the defendant was, at the time when the cause of the action arose, resident or being within the jurisdiction of the court". The purpose of the courts is to administer a justice which is understood and appreciated by Africans and is as far as possible in accordance with accepted native customs.

The Native Courts may exercise criminal jurisdiction to the extent set out in their warrants and subject to the provisions of the Ordinance. Such jurisdiction extends to the hearing, trial and determination of all criminal charges and matters in which the complainant and the accused are Africans and the defendant is accused of having wholly or in part, within the jurisdiction of the court, committed, or been accessory to the committing of an offence. Native Courts have no jurisdiction to try offences in consequence of which death is alleged to have occurred or which are punishable under any law with death or imprisonment for life, nor may they try cases in connection with marriage, other than marriage contracted under or in accordance with Mohammedan or

native law or custom, except where both parties are of the same religion and the claim is one for dowry only.

Native Courts have and may exercise civil jurisdiction to the extent set out in their warrants and subject to the provisions of the Native Courts Ordinance. Civil proceedings relating to immovable property must be taken in the Native Court within the area of whose jurisdiction the property is situated. There is, in fact, no sharp distinction drawn by Native Courts between civil and criminal cases.

The powers of each court are set out in the warrant establishing it. Courts are divided into three classes as follows:—

- Class A.* Fine not exceeding £5.  
Imprisonment not exceeding six months.
- Class B.* Fine not exceeding £3.  
Imprisonment not exceeding three months.
- Class C.* Fine not exceeding £1.  
Imprisonment not exceeding one month.

In cases of a criminal nature a Native Court may impose a fine, or may order imprisonment, or both a fine and imprisonment. Orders for compensation may also be made. A Native Court may not impose corporal punishment unless it has power to try the offence under the Penal Code and the Code authorizes such penalty, or unless the offence is one against native law and custom, and native law and custom of the area concerned recognizes corporal punishment as a penalty for that offence.

Provincial and District Commissioners have in the first instance complete powers of review and revision over Native Courts cases and appeals against orders or decisions of the Native Court go either to the Native Appeal Court, where there is one, or direct to the District Commissioners and thereafter to the Provincial Commissioners. Appeals from Native Courts lie ultimately to the High Court.

In 1951 African urban courts were started in Blantyre and Zomba. Each court has a panel of members of whom three are chosen for each sitting. These urban courts deal with petty cases in the townships and also with matters involving African customary law. In the case of the Blantyre Court arrangements are made for it to sit at Limbe as required.

The total number of cases heard by Native Courts in 1953 was 42,648. Of these 26,626 were cases of a criminal nature and 16,022 were cases of a civil nature although, as stated above, the distinction between the two is not sharply drawn. Once again a large number of the cases heard related to marriage and the payment of compensation in cases of adultery. Although these are strictly civil cases many courts also impose a fine in the hope of discouraging this type of offence. Of the 40,774 persons convicted 562 were unpunished, 1,201 were sentenced to imprisonment, 24,608 to a fine, 2,002 to compensation, 13

to a fine and imprisonment, 12,150 to a fine and compensation and 238 to other punishments.

A revised memorandum on Native Courts was published during the year. A Chinyanja version of the memorandum, which is designed to assist Administrative Officers and others whose work is connected with Native Courts, is in the course of preparation.

### POLICE

The European establishment of the force was increased during the year to 33 gazetted officers and 37 Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors. The actual strength at the end of the year was 30 gazetted officers and 23 Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors, the shortfall being mainly due to the formation towards the end of the year of a mobile force with an establishment of 14 European Officers and Inspectors and 200 African ranks. The Asian establishment was increased to five and the African establishment to 1,030; the actual strength at the end of the year was two Asians and 987 Africans. In addition to the above, the establishment contains civilian staff numbering five Europeans, one Asian and 99 Africans.

The Central Government police are responsible for the maintenance of law and order throughout the Protectorate. There are at present no regional or Native Authority Police Forces, although district and Native Authority court messengers are on occasions used to assist the police in the execution of some of their duties.

The Force is organized in three divisions corresponding with the three Provinces. Each division is under the command of a Superintendent, stationed at Provincial headquarters. Police stations have been established at all district headquarters and in the larger districts subsidiary police posts are stationed in other centres. Police headquarters, including the Criminal Investigation Division, the Special Branch, the Police Training School and the Signals Branch, are at Zomba.

A total of 417 African policemen were recruited during the year. All underwent a course lasting between six and eight months at the new training school, opened in 1952, which now has accommodation for 84 recruits. In addition, refresher courses and specialist training courses were held at the school during the year.

Following the disturbances, which broke out in the Southern Province at the end of August and lasted through most of September, a Police Mobile Force was formed towards the end of the year for the purpose of dealing with situations which require police action at short notice.

Recruitment of special constables under the Police (Special Constables) Regulations, 1952, made under the Police Ordinance, continued and by the end of the year 687 Europeans, 134 Asians and 101 Africans had been recruited. The Special Constable Force rendered

valuable assistance to the regular police throughout the disturbances.

The reorganization of the Criminal Investigation Division continued. A total of 16,897 offences were dealt with by the police during the year, an increase of 2,037 over the figure for 1952. The increase was mainly accounted for by petty statutory offences, although offences against the Penal Code also showed a noticeable increase, largely as a result of the disturbances. Figures for burglaries, theft and arson all showed an increase over 1952. Comparative figures of offences reported in recent years are as follows:—

	1950	1951	1952	1953
Murders .. .. .	80 ..	45 ..	62 ..	68
Burglary, housebreaking, store-breakings, etc. .. ..	1,145 ..	1,284 ..	1,725 ..	1,863
Theft .. .. .	3,130 ..	3,195 ..	3,449 ..	3,483
Arson .. .. .	156 ..	227 ..	289 ..	348
Other offences against the Penal Code	1,716 ..	2,266 ..	2,913 ..	3,395
Statutory offences .. ..	4,332 ..	5,618 ..	6,422 ..	7,740
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>10,559</b>	<b>12,635</b>	<b>14,860</b>	<b>16,897</b>

Recidivists were again responsible for many of the offences against property. A system of police supervision of known habitual criminals operated throughout the Protectorate.

The two mobile traffic squads, which completed their training in 1952, did good work during the year. The signals section proved of great value in maintaining communications throughout the period of the disturbances.

The transition of the Police Band from a brass to a military combination was completed during the year and the high standard of performance was maintained. The bandsmen were all recruited in youth, none of them having any education higher than Standard III; that they are now able to play efficiently the most difficult military band music and to give a reasonable rendering of new music on sight reflects the highest credit on their Ghurka bandmaster and shows what Nyasaland Africans can do, given patient and careful handling. The dance band section continued to flourish and is thought to be second to none among Colonial Police Forces. Its services were frequently made use of and much appreciated by all sections of the community.

The Immigration Branch of the Force which, for the convenience of the public, is stationed in Blantyre, is responsible for the implementation of the Immigration (Control) Ordinance and the Regulations made thereunder; it is also responsible for all passport control work.

## PRISONS

The Central Prison in Zomba and the two prison farms at Mikuyu and Pyupyu are the only prisons in the Protectorate directly under the control of officers of the Colonial Prison Service; the remaining two second class and 11 third class prisons are administered by officers of

the Administration, Police and Agricultural Departments but are staffed by regular prison warders.

The Central Prison takes all classes of prisoners from all parts of the Protectorate; the second and third class prisons retain only first offenders with sentences of up to two years and six months respectively. All prisons in the Protectorate are under the ultimate control of the Commissioner of Prisons, Zomba.

The authorized establishment of the Prisons Department in 1953 was seven European officers, 13 African clerks, artisan instructors and messengers and 232 African subordinate warder staff. In addition there were six instructors and warders at the Chilwa School for juvenile delinquents and 16 temporary warders.

Warders' training courses for newly attested recruits continued during the year at the Central Prison; refresher and promotion courses for senior warders were also held. A total of 77 new recruits were attested and 78 warders left the service during the year, 28 being dismissed for misconduct. The number of punishments to warders for disciplinary offences was 217, compared with 147 in 1952. Many of the offences were of a minor nature.

The African Staff of the Department benefited from the Government salary revision which took place during the year and salary scales generally continued to compare favourably with those of similar ranks in the Police. As a result, there was no shortage of applicants for posts in the service. The practice of enlisting both literate and illiterate warders was continued and it was thus possible to obtain a balanced recruitment covering the maturer type of retired army N.C.O. as well as younger men with some education but little previous experience.

During 1953 a total of 4,194 persons were received in the prisons of the Protectorate, of whom 2,732 were sentenced to imprisonment; of these latter 92 were women. These figures show an increase over those for 1952 which were 3,387 received, 2,186 for imprisonment, including 66 women.

The number of recidivists committed to prison during the year was 466, an increase of 153 on the figure for the previous year. As a number of these persons are admitted to prison more than once during the course of a year, the actual number of individuals concerned is smaller than the figures suggest.

The daily average number of male prisoners in all prisons during the year was 1,033.57 and of females 25.43. The prison population fluctuated to a considerable extent in the course of the year. The total number in custody on 1st January, 1953, was 973 and the figure on 31st December was 1,302. In November the daily average in all prisons rose to 1,435 and the average for December was 1,388. The abnormal increase in population was due almost entirely to the civil disturbances which occurred during September and to subsequent

extensive police action. The sudden increase in numbers resulted in some temporary overcrowding at certain district prisons.

The three prison farms, Pyupyu and Mikuyu in the Zomba area and Dzeleka, in the Dowa District of the Central Province, made satisfactory progress during the year. These farms are for the segregation, training and rehabilitation of first offenders whose sentences range from six months to life imprisonment. The prisoners are housed in open camps with no surrounding walls or fences. The standard of discipline is high and the prisoners respond well to the system of trust on which the camps are run. Food crops to the value of £3,132 were produced on the farms during the year for the feeding of prisoners and stock. Farm produce to the value of £879 was also sold to the public. From Mikuyu, where a large mixed herd of cattle is held, a total of 58 calves were supplied to the Medical Department for the extraction of calf lymph vaccine during the year.

There were a total of 420 punishments for breaches of prison discipline at all prisons during the year. This is an increase of 80 over the figure for the previous year. Once again the increase was largely due to the behaviour of a certain religious sect who, on admission to prison for any offence, refuse to wear prison clothing, to work or to co-operate in any way. Punishments awarded were mainly loss of remission of sentence, penal diet and close confinement. After disciplinary action had been taken the offenders mostly behaved in a normal way.

During the year a large number of women were convicted for refusing to comply with soil conservation rules. These women were extremely recalcitrant on admission but before long they were all employed on soil conservation work in the Central Prison grounds.

There were two cases of corporal punishment, one at the Central Prison and one at a district prison. Both were for serious assaults on warders.

The general health of prisoners was good. The daily average on the sick list at all prisons was 13.27, compared with 21.42 in 1952. The total number admitted to hospital was 346. There were seven deaths, five from natural causes and two as the result of a lorry accident. A hospital is available at the Central Prison and Government medical officers visit all prisons in the Protectorate. Serious cases are admitted to the civil hospitals on the recommendation of a medical officer.

Long-term prisoners at the Central Prison are trained in carpentry, tailoring, shoe-making and blacksmithing. At the prison farms prisoners are instructed in proper agricultural methods as well as in dairy farming and poultry keeping. Training is undertaken by artisan instructors and trade warders and an agricultural instructor and a veterinary assistant are attached to the prison farms. Work in the Central Prison continued during the year and a total of 27,618 articles were produced in the workshops for other Government departments and for private individuals.

Prisoners at the Central Prison and prison farms are allowed to play football at weekends and this is much enjoyed by both players and spectators. Facilities are also available for prisoners to listen to vernacular radio programmes and several cinema shows were held at the Central Prison. Elementary education classes were held by educated prisoners at several prisons.

Apart from the more specialized occupations, described above, prisoners at the Central Prison are either engaged extra-murally on brick-making, building, gardening, stone-quarrying, grass-cutting and general labour or else intra-murally on general prison duties, building, string and mat-making, etc. At prison farms work covers garden cultivation, care of stock and general labour, while at district prisons the main form of employment is usually the upkeep of the station and the cultivation of a garden for prison use.

All convicted prisoners with sentences of over one month are eligible to earn remission of one-quarter of their sentence. First offenders with sentences of more than three years may earn remission of one-third of their sentence. Remission is credited to a prisoner on his admission and only forfeited for offences against prison discipline. Reports on prisoners with sentences of seven years and over are sent to the Governor every four years.

A payment scheme for prisoners is in operation on the prison farms. All prisoners are eligible and payment is graded according to the length of term served on the farm and the nature of the employment. Payments range from 2d to 7d per week. Prisoners employed on specialized work or in positions of trust and responsibility earn the higher rate.

The Chilwa Approved School for juvenile delinquents continued to make good progress during the year when there were ten admissions and five discharges. The number of boys at the school at the close of the year was 31. The school accommodates boys up to the age of 18 years and the minimum period for which a boy may be committed is two years. The average age of the boys at the school at the end of 1953 was 14.32 years. The training provided at the school consists mainly of practical work such as agriculture and carpentry but 1½ hours per day are devoted to academic instruction. Organized games are played and the school has its own scout troupe, which during the year attended the Coronation Jamboree in Zomba. The school sports were again a great success, seven other schools attending, and the Chilwa School finished second in the final results.

The practice of allowing boys from the school to go on home leave was continued and 21 boys were given leave at intervals according to their grades. These visits are quite unsupervised and the boys are placed on trust. The privilege does much to keep the boys in touch with their family and home life and it is a great credit to the school that no boy has ever failed to return at the end of his home leave. The standard of discipline at the school remained high and only one boy absconded during the year.

There is no after-care organization for prisoners in the Protectorate. On discharge prisoners are given free transport warrants to a point near their homes and, if necessary, small sums to cover their immediate expenses. In special cases tools or other equipment may be provided in order to assist a prisoner in finding work and efforts are made to obtain employment for those who experience any difficulty in this respect. The probationary system, which operates in the territory, is described in Chapter 7.

Visiting justices are appointed to all prisons in the Protectorate and lady visiting justices pay frequent visits to the women's prison in Zomba.

## Chapter 10. Public Utilities and Public Works

### PUBLIC UTILITIES

The only public utility services operated in Nyasaland are the electricity supplies of the main townships, Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba and Lilongwe, and the water supplies of Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe and a few district headquarters.

Government electrical undertakings are the responsibility of the Electrical Services Department, whose headquarters are at Blantyre. Government has made financial provision for the development of electrical services by allocating for the purpose £860,000 from the £2,060,000 loan raised in 1952 as well as an additional £152,000, on the authority of the Secretary of State, against the raising of a further Protectorate loan. Of this amount £286,502 was spent in 1953.

The following Table shows the type of plant at present installed in the three main areas of supply together with the number of units generated in 1953 and the percentage increase over the previous year:—

<i>Area</i>	<i>Type of plant</i>	<i>Plant capacity</i>	<i>Units generated in 1953</i>	<i>Percentage increase</i>	<i>No. of consumers</i>
Blantyre/Limbe ..	Diesel	kw 850	2,100,000	24	600
Zomba .. ..	Hydro and Diesel	500	820,000	11	300
Lilongwe ..	Diesel	225	267,000	First full year of operation	120

In the Blantyre/Limbe area the present plant will be replaced during the first half of 1954 by a new undertaking involving a steam power station with a capacity of 7,000 kilowatts. Good progress was made with the erection of the power station during the year. In addition progress was made with the building of the high tension distribution system and the rebuilding of the low tension system. This enabled a large number of consumers to be connected and the plant at the existing power station became fully loaded.

In Zomba the hydro-extension to the present undertaking was nearing completion at the end of the year and will, with the new power station of 900 kilowatts capacity, be put into operation early in 1954. The first Pelton Wheel was installed and the pipe-line and dam were almost complete. The high tension system was extended to Mikuyu and to the Government Grade VI housing site which now has a 24-hour

supply. This system was also extended through the Agricultural Experimental Station to the African Hospital, improving the supply to the latter.

In Lilongwe the undertaking was extended to cover most of the township. The sale of energy increased from 5,000 units per month in September, 1952, to 28,000 units per month in September, 1953.

Electrical plants have been installed at a number of small Government stations throughout the Protectorate, such as Chileka and Cholo in the Southern Province.

Charges for electricity in Zomba vary between 2d per unit for residences and 9d per unit for shops subject, in most cases, to a minimum varying between 5s and 15s per month. In addition a fixed rate is charged for residences of 8d per 100 square feet of floor area, for hotels, etc., of 5s per month for each living-room and for industrial concerns and cinemas of 3s per horsepower per month. In Blantyre charges vary between 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d per unit for residences and 1s-3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d per unit for shops with, in addition, fixed rates for residences of 3s-6d per month for each living-room, for hotels, etc., of 5s per month for each living-room and for industrial concerns and cinemas of 3s per horsepower per month. In Limbe charges vary between 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per unit for residences and 1s-6d per unit for shops, businesses and hotels with, in addition, fixed rates for residences of 1s per 100 square feet of floor area, for hotels, etc., of 5s per month for each living-room and for industrial concerns and cinemas of 3s per horse-power per month. In Lilongwe charges are similar to those in Limbe but rather lower; for residences, for instance, the charge is 4d per unit, instead of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Government has made loan and other provision amounting to £625,000 for the development of water supplies in the Protectorate and of this amount £118,447 was spent in 1953.

The Zomba piped water supply is taken from the Mlungusi River, half-way up Zomba Mountain, and is distributed by gravity feed to all parts of the town; the water is neither filtered nor treated but analysis reveals that it is clean and pure. Owing to the inadequacy of the present system for the growing needs of the town a preliminary report for major extensions was prepared during the year. With effect from June, 1953, the water rate for Zomba was 9s-6d per stand pipe per quarter and 4s-6d per water closet per quarter.

Blantyre has hitherto drawn its water from a dam on the Mudi River, some four miles distant. The storage capacity of the original dam was, however, quite inadequate for present-day needs and in 1951 a contract was let for the construction of a new Blantyre/Limbe water supply system incorporating a large earth dam to increase storage capacity. The reservoir, the retaining wall of which contains approximately 213,000 cubic yards of selected material and which has a 300 million gallon capacity, was completed in 1952 and the first discharge of water over the spillway commenced in March, 1953. The contract was nearing completion at the end of the year. Pipe-laying and the

construction of purification plant and service reservoirs were finished and, in order to bring the scheme into partial operation, temporary pumps were installed to offset delays in the delivery of the permanent pumps. The water rate in Blantyre during the year was 4s-2d per thousand gallons.

The present Lilongwe supply merely delivers river water to the houses, unfiltered and unchlorinated. The water is pumped from the river to a small service reservoir and thence fed by gravity through the township. The installation of a completely new supply system, estimated to cost £66,000, was begun at the end of 1952 and satisfactory progress was made during 1953 on the construction of the pumping and purification plant, river weir and service reservoirs. The rate charged for water in Lilongwe during 1953 was £1 per month per house.

Numerous small schemes for supplying water to district headquarters have been prepared and those in respect of Dedza and Cholo were put into operation during the year. In addition, drawings for a supply scheme at Fort Johnston were finalized and preliminary site investigations were carried out for new schemes at Mzuzu and Nkata Bay.

#### PUBLIC WORKS

The establishment of the permanent European Staff of the Public Works Department was increased by one Works Supervisor and one Secretary during the year. Recruitment of supervisory staff to fill existing vacancies, however, proved difficult. The Department is organized in six technical branches, each subordinate to its branch head. These branches are as follows: roads branch, under the Senior Roads Engineer; building branch, under the Architect; water works branch, under the Water Works Engineer; mechanical branch, under the Mechanical Engineer; stores branch, under the Chief Storekeeper; and accounts and secretarial branch, under the Senior Accountant.

Once again, owing to the severe shortage of accommodation, a considerable part of the building capacity of the Public Works Department was devoted to the construction of staff quarters. Twenty-one European quarters, three Asian quarters and 304 African staff quarters were constructed during the year. Despite this progress the increase in numbers of African Staff and the higher standard of accommodation demanded, and recognized by Government to be desirable, still render the housing shortage acute.

Other important buildings completed, or nearing completion during the year, were the Limbe/Blantyre power station, estimated to cost in all some £750,000; the unallocated stores and transport depot at Blantyre, on which £10,749 was spent in 1953; the mental hospital at Zomba, on which £8,058 was spent in 1953; the meteorological station at Chileka, on which £3,146 was spent in 1953; a new post office at Lilongwe; a new accounts office at Lilongwe; a new tuberculosis ward at the Lilongwe African Hospital; and a new Lilongwe African

welfare hall, financed from Native Development and Welfare Funds, costing approximately £14,000.

In addition to the above, progress was made with the development of the new township at Nkata Bay, and £19,289 was spent during the year. An African shelter, post office and police post were constructed as well as a research laboratory for the Fisheries Research Team now established there. Work proceeded on the Dedza Secondary School and £17,038 was spent; and on the leprosarium near Fort Manning on which £13,339 was spent. The preparation of contract documents for the first stage of the new 800 bed-group hospital at Blantyre, estimated to cost £750,000, was nearly completed at the end of the year as well as contract documents for the new European school at Blantyre and the terminal building at Chileka airport.

## Chapter 11. Communications

### SHIPPING

Nyasaland is served by the port of Beira, in Portuguese East Africa, through which the great majority of its imports and exports must pass. There was no serious congestion in the port in 1953 and thanks largely to the efforts of the Beira Imports Advisory Committee and the Phasing Secretariat the clearance of goods proceeded smoothly throughout the year.

### RAILWAYS

The Nyasaland, Central Africa and Trans-Zambesia Railways provide communication with the sea at Beira and thence with Southern Rhodesia and the Union of South Africa. The companies operate a 3' 6" gauge line. The line passes over the Lower Zambesi Bridge after leaving Nyasaland; this bridge with a length of 12,064 feet is the longest railway bridge in the world. The principal station in Nyasaland is at Limbe but a northern extension to the line reaches to the railhead at Salima. At Chipoka, south of Salima, trains connect with the vessels operating on Lake Nyasa. The total mileage covered by the Railway within Nyasaland is approximately 290.

In recent years there has been a steady increase in both the goods and passenger traffic carried by the Nyasaland Railways. In 1953 a greater tonnage of goods was carried than ever before; 326,324 tons of goods traffic were carried over the section of the line operated by the Nyasaland Railways, compared with 278,782 tons in 1952 and some 64,000 tons in 1939. The number of passengers carried during 1953 was 355,969, compared with 316,547 in 1952 and 146,046 in 1939.

To deal with the increasing traffic the Nyasaland Railways took delivery during the year of an additional five tank cars, 30 covered trucks and 60 high-sided open trucks. In order to provide faster passenger services, delivery will be made in 1954 of two diesel passenger rail-cars, with buffet facilities, as well as nine main line locomotives and a number of goods trucks.

### ROADS AND VEHICLES

Nyasaland has a wide network of roads. The spinal column of the system is the route from the Portuguese border on the Ruo River, near Mlanje, northwards through Blantyre, Lilongwe and Mzimba to join the Tanganyika and Northern Rhodesia system at Tunduma. Most of the other roads of importance link this north-south route with the railway and the Lake in the east and Northern Rhodesia and Portuguese East Africa in the west. A large programme of road construction, covering the period 1951/1955, has been drawn up, financed partly from

Colonial Development and Welfare Funds and partly from Protectorate Funds.

The total road mileage in the Protectorate is 4,852 of which 1,726 miles of main roads and 706 miles of secondary roads are the responsibility of the Public Works Department, 2,381 miles of secondary roads are maintained by the Provincial and District Administration and other departments and 39 miles are the responsibility of Town Councils; many of the less important roads are used by light traffic only and are only serviceable during the dry season.

The cost of maintaining some sections of main road carrying heavy traffic may be as much as £70 to £80 per mile per annum; maintenance of minor district roads costs no more than £4 to £5 per mile. A Roads Engineer is now attached to the staff of the Provincial Engineer in each Province. Mechanization of road maintenance is taking place and was advanced a further stage by the arrival of ten light maintenance units, consisting of towed graders, bottom dump wagons and tractors.

Work continued during the year on the reconstruction with tarmacadam of parts of the more important roads in the Protectorate. The work is being done under contract and by the end of 1953 some 80 miles had been completed. This comprised the Blantyre-Chileka Road, the Limbe-Zomba Road and the Limbe-Luchenza Road. A new contract for the surfacing of the Luchenza-Mlanje Road was let during the year.

Contract documents were put in hand for the Mlanje-Portuguese East Africa Border Road and the Salima-Lilongwe-Fort Jameson Road. The survey and design of the Chitala-Benga Road in the Central Province was completed during the year. The preliminary survey of the Lower River roads in the Southern Province was also completed by Messrs. Gilbert Ash.

Bitumenizing of the Lilongwe through road progressed and some 900 feet of surface was laid. Some 2,800 feet of the Zomba township roads was also surfaced.

Improvements were made to the operation of the Chikwawa Ferry and a new and larger timber ferry was installed at Chiromo. The road embankment on the Bengula-Chiromo Road was completed, new bridges and culverts being installed where necessary.

At the end of 1953 there were 2,915 private cars registered in the Protectorate, compared with 2,666 in 1952; 2,241 goods vehicles, compared with 2,096 in 1952; and 54 motor omnibuses, compared with 72 in 1952. Bus services operate on the majority of the main roads and during 1953 1,164,695 passengers were carried and 1,271,206 miles operated, compared with 1,093,642 passengers and 1,110,583 miles in 1952. The Nyasaland Transport Company completed the purchase of a fleet of comfortable and reliable omnibuses and consequently improved their service.

There was no shortage of motor fuel and electric pumps were

installed during the year in the main centres. A new bulk petrol depot was opened in Blantyre by the Shell Company of Rhodesia during October; this should result in better distribution of petroleum products throughout the territory.

### LAKE TRANSPORT

Internal traffic on Lake Nyasa was continued by the Nyasaland Railways, operating a fleet of six tugs, 14 barges each of 25–30 ton capacity, the *M.V. Mpasu*, 240 ton capacity and the *M.V. Ilala II*, which has a displacement of 620 tons, carries 100 tons of cargo and accommodates nine first class, six second class and 276 fourth class passengers. The *Ilala II* maintains a regular service round the Lake, the whole voyage taking eight days.

Proposed developments in the Lake service, operated by the Railways, include the provision of a cabin cruiser, a new 200-ton cargo vessel and four towing barges.

Wireless communication is installed at Railway headquarters, at Lake-ports and on ships. Navigation lights have been erected at the main points on the Lake.

The *Chauncy Maples*, a small wood-burning vessel, belonging to the Universities Mission to Central Africa, continued to operate until September when she was laid up pending sale.

Government maintains a launch in each of the three Provinces for use by administrative and departmental officers.

A temporary jetty was constructed at Kota Kota during the year and consulting engineers carried out investigations into the development of port facilities at Kota Kota, Nkata Bay, Karonga, Kambere Lagoon and Kaporo.

### CIVIL AVIATION

The establishment of the Department of Civil Aviation in 1953 comprised, as European Staff, the Director, six signals and wireless officers, a fire officer, an airport superintendent and two air traffic control officers; and as African Staff, four clerks, seven wireless operators and 81 subordinate staff, including messengers, aerodrome overseers, airport hands, plant operators and fire-fighters. In addition, there is a Meteorological Section attached to the Department with an establishment of four European officers and 42 Africans. The recruitment of a European meteorological assistant during the year made it possible to open a joint aviation/meteorological station at Mzimba in the Northern Province.

Two aerodromes and 11 landing grounds were maintained in the territory during the year and the disused landing ground at Balaka was reopened for emergency and precautionary landings. The abandoned airfield at Fort Hill, in the extreme north of the Protectorate, was leased to the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association who reopened and

developed it for Dakota operations in connection with the transport of African labour.

The Salima airfield was closed for the whole of the year to all except light aircraft because of the serious surface erosion caused by the the propeller blast of the heavy Viking aircraft, which were operated in 1952. The runway was harrowed and replanted with *dubh*-grass. This appears to have established itself well and the airfield should be ready to receive further tourist excursions from Southern Rhodesia in 1954. A site for the new Salima airport was finally selected and consulting engineers completed the engineering specifications.

In Lilongwe also considerable difficulty was experienced in maintaining a suitable grass cover in view of the increased operations of the Africair Charter Company, which carries African recruits on behalf of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association to Francistown in Bechuanaland, whence they proceed to South Africa by rail. These operations were intensified during the year and by December an average of four aircraft per day were using the Lilongwe airfield. It is hoped that measures similar to those adopted at Salima will also prove effective at Lilongwe.

Constructional work during the year was confined to the erection of small passenger handling buildings at Mzuzu, Karonga and Mzimba. A design for the new terminal building at Chileka airport was approved and work will commence early in 1954.

The Central African Airways Corporation, subsidized by the Governments of Southern and Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, continued to provide all internal and regional services. The frequency of the services provided was as follows:—

Blantyre–Salisbury .. ..	..	Five times weekly
Blantyre–Dar-es-Salaam–Nairobi ..	..	Twice weekly
Blantyre–Lilongwe–Fort Jameson– Lusaka .. ..	..	Once weekly
Blantyre–Salima–Lilongwe .. ..	..	Four times weekly
Blantyre–Lilongwe (direct) .. ..	..	Three times weekly
Blantyre–Mzimba–Mbeya .. ..	..	Once weekly.

The services to Salisbury and Nairobi were operated by means of Viking aircraft and the Lusaka service by means of Dakota aircraft. Connections were provided at Salisbury with Lusaka, Bulawayo, Livingstone and other Central African destinations as well as with Beira, Lourenco Marques, Johannesburg and other destinations in Southern Africa. Passengers for the Comet service were able to join the jet airliner at Livingstone in Northern Rhodesia. Connections in East Africa permitted through flights to India, the Far East and Australia. Passengers to Australia were also given the opportunity of flying the Southern Indian Ocean route from Johannesburg to Perth via Mauritius and the Cocos Islands.

The internal service was operated by means of de Havilland

(Canada) Beaver aircraft. In addition to the regular stops mentioned above, the service called, on request, at Zomba, Fort Johnston, Monkey Bay and Kasungu. This local service, instituted in 1951, continued to prove most popular. It has done much to assist in the general development of the country and has proved of particular benefit to residents in the Northern Province where communications, especially during the rains, are apt to be difficult.

No new aircraft were registered in the Protectorate during the year and two aircraft only remain on the Nyasaland register.

Statistics of aircraft movements are only available for the two main airports, Chileka and Lilongwe; 1952 and 1953 figures of movements, passengers, mail and freight are:—

	Chileka		Lilongwe	
	1952	1953	1952	1953
Aircraft movements .. ..	2,148	2,432	1,546	2,456
Passengers handled (in) .. ..	4,764	5,318	5,628	16,566
Passengers handled (out) .. ..	4,870	4,971	5,765	14,034
Mail in Kilos (in) .. ..	37,462	41,712	9,308	9,320
Mail in Kilos (out) .. ..	22,290	21,452	5,541	5,115
Freight in Kilos (in) .. ..	144,252	151,563	14,710	34,845
Freight in Kilos (out) .. ..	35,743	38,853	7,583	12,462

Improvements to the telecommunications service continued during the year and included the provision of a new 50 watt M/F beacon at Lilongwe, the replacement of the temporary M/F locator beacon at Chileka by a new 100 watt locator and the dismantling and reassembly of the V.H.F. D/F station at Chileka. The telecommunications equipment at Mzimba and Salima was consolidated to provide communication for aircraft point to point with each other and with the main station at Chileka.

The Meteorological Service which, for the sake of convenience, is administered by the Director of Civil Aviation, continued to provide weather information for aircraft during the year. Orders were placed for equipment with which to develop the existing meteorological station and for the expansion of the rainfall and upper wind finding network. Thirteen synoptic reporting stations were maintained and in April the station at Monkey Bay was closed and replaced by a similar station at Salima, partly with the object of obtaining meteorological data in connection with the proposed new international airport.

#### POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The establishment of the Posts and Telecommunications Department during 1953 consisted of 66 Europeans and 742 Africans. The Europeans included the Postmaster General and assistant Postmaster General, a chief engineer, a chief accountant, a postal controller a postal efficiency officer, postal surveyors, accountants, postal officers (previously styled head postmasters and postmasters), telecommunications engineers and inspectors and telephone supervisors. The

African Staff included in the executive division a telegraphs superintendent, senior postal accounting assistants, supervising postmasters and postmasters, in the general division, accountants, postmasters, telegraphists, postal assistants, technicians and telephonists, and in the subordinate division, mail carriers, messengers, drivers and labourers. Several of the European posts on the engineering side were unfilled during the year and difficulty was again experienced in obtaining Africans of the necessary educational qualifications to fill the higher grades of employment.

The general development of communications, under the control of the Department, proceeded rapidly in 1953. Business continued to expand and the total revenue from all services was £190,451, compared with revenue of £134,271 in 1952. This very considerable increase is partly due to sales of the special Rhodes Centenary and Coronation stamp issues to philatelists.

Two new post offices were opened during the year, at Magomero and Chileka airport. In addition, three new postal agencies were opened. The post offices at Mlangeni, Dedza, Kota Kota, Ekwendeni and Karonga were enlarged to accommodate increasing business. A revised and improved layout was introduced at Zomba Post Office and this made possible an improvement of the radio-telegraph and teleprinter offices. Street posting boxes were installed at points convenient to the public in Blantyre, Limbe and Zomba. Money order facilities were extended to five further post offices.

A special issue of 6d stamps to commemorate the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition was on sale from 30th May to 30th September. A special issue of 2d stamps to commemorate the Coronation was on sale from 2nd June until the end of the year. A complete new range of Nyasaland Queen Elizabeth stamps was issued on 1st September. This includes new denominations of 2½d and 4½d but the denomination of 4d included in the previous issue has been dropped. Books containing stamps to the value of 2s-6d and 5s were received from the printers at the end of the year and were issued for sale to the public on 1st January, 1954.

During the period of the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition at Bulawayo an African postmaster was in attendance at the Nyasaland stand for the purpose of selling stamps to philatelists. The venture was most successful and the postmaster concerned was honoured by an introduction to Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

A weekly airmail service to Karonga was introduced during the year and the airmail service to the United Kingdom was much improved by the use of B.O.A.C. Comet Services as a result of which transit times were reduced to two days. A number of external airmail rates were increased on 1st May, 1953, in order to meet the higher conveyance charges introduced by international air carriers. The rates to neighbouring African territories and to India and Pakistan remained unaltered, however, as did the internal rates and the 6d airletter rate which is available to most countries.

There was a considerable increase in the use of most postal services during the year and the approximate number of items handled rose from 9,500,000 in 1952 to 12,400,000 in 1953, an increase of some 31 per cent.

The accounts branch was further mechanized during the year with a consequent increase in efficiency. Money orders to the value of £136,940 were issued and to the value of £139,418 paid. The value of postal orders issued amounted to £108,481 and of payments to £492,033. The overall turnover at all post offices was £1,557,722.

The international telephone service was extended through Southern Rhodesia to the United Kingdom. There was a considerable demand for calls to the United Kingdom over the Christmas holiday period but, unfortunately, conditions at that time were extremely bad and about 60 per cent. of the calls had to be cancelled. Progress continued with the extension of the internal trunk network and the total mileage rose from 2,412 in 1952 to 3,428 in 1953. This increase was effected by further extensions in the V.H.F. radio routes to Dowa, Fort Manning (extended by land line to Fort Jameson), Fort Johnston and a direct link to Monkey Bay, by an H.F. radio link with privacy facilities between Zomba and Mzuzu and by the provision of a number of additional land line circuits between various exchanges, including some 45 circuits between Limbe and Blantyre.

The two main automatic exchanges at Limbe and Blantyre, each having a capacity of 500 lines, were brought into operation in January. The rate of growth on these exchanges has been such that orders had to be placed for equipment with which to extend the Blantyre Exchange by 300 lines and the Limbe Exchange by 200 lines. Simultaneously, with the completion of these two exchanges, full interdialling facilities were made available to subscribers throughout the Southern Province network. A new auto-manual board was installed at Limbe to carry international and trunk traffic from subscribers on the Southern Province network to places elsewhere in the Protectorate. An automatic exchange was opened at Domasi and manual exchanges were brought into service at Dowa, Mzuzu, Njuli and Fort Johnston. A larger exchange was installed at Salima. The Zomba automatic Exchange was extended by a further 100 lines to its capacity of 300 lines but, owing to the very high rate of calling, considerable congestion was experienced and it became necessary to order a replacement exchange of a more suitable type. The number of telephones in service increased from 1,585, at the end of 1952, to 2,407 at the end of 1953.

Additional radio telegraph links were opened to Cholo, Salima Town and Fort Manning. Radio telegraph service was also restored to Likoma Island. The Salima-Grand Beach link was withdrawn. In general, telegraph statistics during the year showed an increase of 17.47 per cent. on received traffic and 19.91 per cent. on transmitted traffic and this in spite of a decrease in Government traffic resulting from the greatly extended use of the telephone by Government officials. Internal

and international telegraph charges remained unaltered throughout 1953.

The year was a very difficult one for the telegraph service, in view of its dependance on H.F. radio links, owing to the unfavourable propagation conditions applying, which amounted to almost sun-spot minimum conditions. In spite of this, however, traffic was, with very few exceptions, handled without delay.

Phonogram and telephone/telegram services were introduced at the beginning of February but their use by the general public has so far proved disappointing.

During the disturbances, which occurred in September, a radio network was established for security announcements and this was subsequently retained and used for half-hour programmes which were arranged each evening by the Public Relations Department. The station operated until almost the end of the year when it had to be closed down.

Training of the African Staff of the Department at the Postal training school continued on a reduced scale, owing to the absence of a number of officers on leave. A total of ten telephonists were trained during the year and 20 Africans successfully completed the course on external construction work.

## Chapter 12. Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services

### PRESS

Printing and the production of reading matter were among the earliest "civilized" developments in Nyasaland. As far back as 1878 the Blantyre Mission of the Church of Scotland brought out a hand Press and produced a monthly journal *Life and Work in Central Africa* which is still published. The Universities Missions to Central Africa has produced a journal, *Nyasa News*, at its headquarters on Likoma Island in Lake Nyasa since 1893.

The first regular newspaper to be produced was the *British Central Africa Gazette*, which first appeared in Zomba on 1st January, 1894. The first issue was apparently set up over the Christmas holidays in 1893 for several copies escaped the proof reader with the date 1st December, 1893, on two pages and 1st January, 1894, on the remainder. The printers were Yaos who had been trained by the Missions and one or two are said to have come from Zanzibar.

The *British Central Africa Gazette* was the official medium for the publication of notices, regulations and announcements of the Administration, but it also carried a wealth of material in the form of reports from the districts, accounts by travellers, advice on agriculture and local news, which now present a very vivid picture of life in those days in Central Africa. Local merchants were quick to take advantage of the *Gazette* for their advertisements, one of them reading simply "For Sale. A quantity of Round and Flat Iron". The German Administration in German East Africa also published its regulations in German in the *Gazette*. The "week-end" wars against the slave raiders are described in great detail and the paper is generally a happy hunting ground for the historian. In 1907 the name of the paper was changed to the *Nyasaland Government Gazette*, when the Order in Council of that year changed the name of the territory from the British Central Africa Protectorate to the Nyasaland Protectorate.

The *Government Gazette* of today is published fortnightly by the Government Printer at Zomba and contains only official announcements and notices, Ordinances and such matters as have to be published by law for official information.

The first independent newspaper was *The Central African Planter*, published monthly from September, 1895, at Songani near Zomba. Its first editorial apologized for the appearance of a fourth paper in the Protectorate and hoped that people would not think the field overcrowded. The other papers were *Life and Work*, *Nyasa News* and the *British Central Africa Gazette*. As the telegraph line from Salisbury to

Blantyre was completed about this time, the *Central African Planter* was able to publish world news and so satisfy a definite need.

In 1897 this paper became a weekly and changed its name to the *Central African Times* and later, when the name of the Protectorate was changed, it became the *Nyasaland Times* of today. It is now published on Mondays and Thursdays. Newcomers to the territory are often puzzled by references to something having been "in last week's CAT" until they learn that the *Times* still carries as its nickname the initials of its predecessor. The *Nyasaland Times* is published by the Blantyre Printing and Publishing Company Ltd., of Blantyre. It reaches the European, Asian and educated members of the African community.

The *Rhodesia Herald*, published in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, circulates widely in Nyasaland, despite the fact that its news is often a day or two old by the time it is read.

The African community is provided for by an official weekly newspaper an independent weekly paper and a number of Mission journals, with Chinyanja as the main vernacular. The Government sponsored African Book Centre, with headquarters at Blantyre, supplies books at low rates to Africans.

The official vernacular newspaper *Msimbi* (the relater or recorder of news) has been published weekly by the Public Relations Department in Zomba, since October, 1949. It contains local and world news, illustrations and advertisements. It has the largest circulation of any paper within Nyasaland and it also reaches Nyasaland Africans in South and East Africa and in the Rhodesias. Its predecessors were *Zoona* (The Truth), published by the *Nyasaland Times* before the war and *Nkhani za Nyasaland*, a free official weekly news-sheet which replaced *Zoona* at the beginning of the war to make reliable information freely available to the people.

African interest in *Msimbi* has grown steadily since its inception. By the end of 1952 circulation had risen to 8,200 copies per week. As a result of the appearance of *Bwalo la Nyasaland*, an independent weekly newspaper published in Salisbury for circulation in Nyasaland, sales of *Msimbi* fell during 1953 to some 7,500 copies per week. In view of the fact that the paper is passed from hand to hand and the news contained in it is passed verbally to illiterates, it is estimated that in all the paper reaches a total of some 40,000 Africans. The annual subscription remained 4s.

Other vernacular newspapers in circulation are the *African Weekly* and the *Bantu Mirror*, both published in Southern Rhodesia; the *Nkhani za Dowa*, a district newspaper of the Central Province; the *African*, a monthly paper published by the White Fathers' Mission at Likuni, near Lilongwe, similar in make-up to *Msimbi* but with more accent on mission news; *Mthenga* (The Messenger), published every two months by the Dutch Reformed Church Mission; *Lipenga* (The Trumpeter), published every two months by the Zambesi Industrial Mission; and *Uthenga* (The Message), published every two months by

the Seventh Day Adventist Mission. In addition, one or two estates produce news sheets on duplicators.

*The Nyasaland Journal*, the organ of the Nyasaland Society, is published twice a year and contains papers on matters of social, cultural, historical and scientific interest in the Protectorate. *The Nyasaland Farmer*, a new quarterly journal dealing with agricultural affairs, made its appearance during 1953 and takes the place of the *Nyasaland Agricultural Quarterly Journal*, which went out of production in 1952.

An innovation during the year was the introduction of information bulletins, published approximately every week by the Public Relations Department. The bulletins contain news items and other factual items of interest and by the end of the year had a wide circulation. Some of the information contained in them, together with other items of local interest, was republished in the form of Provincial Bulletins, issued from the headquarters of each of the three Provinces. The bulletins, which are issued free, are fulfilling a useful purpose in placing a correct account of current events before a wide and interested public.

#### BROADCASTING

Broadcast programmes are received in Nyasaland from the Central African Broadcasting Station in Lusaka and from the Southern Rhodesian Broadcasting Station in Salisbury; the former transmits African programmes and the latter provides programmes for the European population. Indian stations are received at good strength, probably because transmission from India has a comparatively short journey over land. The local Asian community are thus well served in their own languages. The B.B.C. Overseas programme is well received in the evenings and South African and Portuguese East Africa stations also come in strongly. Electrical disturbances are, however, fairly frequent during the rains.

Lusaka broadcasts in Chinyanja, the principal vernacular language of the Protectorate, are immensely popular and are listened to regularly by hundreds of African-owners of cheap dry-battery receiving sets. A large number of these listeners correspond directly with the station. English programmes are also relayed and are listened to by the more educated element and often by others who have little or no command of English. Group listening wireless sets have been distributed to various centres in Nyasaland, including African clubs and community halls, while the supply and distribution of "Saucepan" and Phillips dry-battery sets have been organized through commercial channels. It is estimated that at the end of the year there were over 3,000 of these cheap sets in the Protectorate in addition to the 1,700 sets registered with the Postmaster General.

Material and news for transmission to the European and African communities is telegraphed or airmailed to Salisbury and Lusaka by the Public Relations Department. The erection of a proper recording

studio at Zomba was completed during the year and full tape recording equipment was installed. It is thus possible for live material such as talks, songs, music and plays to be recorded and flown to the appropriate transmitting station for inclusion in their programmes.

Nyasaland still has no immediate access to the air. The establishment of a transmitting station at Zomba, which had been agreed by Government in principle, had to be deferred for financial and other reasons. During the disturbances, which took place during August and September, a temporary transmitting station was established in the recording studio mentioned above for security announcements and was subsequently retained and used for evening programmes of half an hour, arranged by the Public Relations Department. These broadcasts continued until almost the end of the year when they had to be abandoned, owing to technical, staff and programme difficulties.

Nyasaland makes an annual contribution of £2,775 to the recurrent cost of the Central African Broadcasting Station at Lusaka.

### FILMS

Film production is in the hands of the Central African Film Unit, centred at Salisbury and now operated as a Federal concern. Members of the Unit pay periodic visits to Nyasaland and the films produced are the best available for African audiences, dealing as they do with subjects near to the African's heart. The Unit has produced three descriptive travel films of Nyasaland, one of which *Nyasaland, Land of the Lake* has been extensively shown in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Switzerland, Norway, South Africa and the Rhodesias. The Unit's tobacco film *Feniasi and Timoti* was put to good use by the mobile cinema unit of the African Tobacco Board and by the end of the year had been seen by a total of 46,173 persons. The success of this film led to the commissioning of another film on cotton production and this was completed in 1953 and ready for showing in the Lower River area before the end of the 1953/54 cotton season. A further film on scouting was made during the year and various items were filmed for inclusion in the *Central African News*.

Two commercial firms visited Nyasaland during the year to make travel films for use in commercial cinemas and on television.

Distribution of films for Africans is undertaken by the two Government information units, one of which is stationed at headquarters in Zomba, and the other, acquired in 1953, in the Northern Province. The units showed films to 174,219 persons during the year and the headquarters unit travelled 7,311 miles in 45 weeks of the year. As the shows are almost all given in the open it is impossible for the units to go on tour during the rains. The films shown are mostly silent but an African commentator, by dint of much practice, puts words into the mouths of the actors through a microphone and loudspeaker system. During the dry season the show would be followed by a dance, the amplifier and record player providing the music and the generator providing lights in the arena. Apart from the Government units, the

African Tobacco Board and the Blantyre District Social Welfare Committee also operated mobile cinema units during the year.

The film library of the Public Relations Department now contains 356 films and serves 35 independently-owned projectors on estates and in factories, missions, schools and private homes. The main sources of supply are the Central Office of Information, which provides documentaries and *British News*, and the Central African Film Unit. A number of films are also purchased from the trade but these are seldom suitable for African audiences.

There are in the Protectorate two permanent cinemas which show films in English. These are situated at Blantyre and Limbe. In addition, four European clubs have their own projectors and hire films from commercial concerns in South Africa or Southern Rhodesia.

### INFORMATION SERVICES

The Public Relations Office was established in February, 1949. In 1953 the Department had an establishment of five Europeans, including the Director, his assistant, a photographer, a cinema officer and a departmental assistant; and 16 Africans, including a sub-editor for *Msimbi*, three mobile unit operators and clerks, drivers and messengers.

The functions of the Director of Public Relations are to assist in interpreting the policy of Government to the people of the Protectorate, to act in an advisory and co-ordinating capacity for distributing information on the various development schemes, to keep in touch with public opinion, to publicize the affairs of the Protectorate in Great Britain and elsewhere and to provide the public of the Protectorate with information about developments in Great Britain and various aspects of British life.

In the execution of these duties the Director makes use of the Press, the cinema, broadcasting, publications, photographs and personal contacts. There is evidence that an increasing interest is being taken in the affairs of the Protectorate by the Press of other countries and news items are supplied to the South African Press Association who distribute them to Reuter and agencies elsewhere. Bulletins of the London Press Services and Press releases from the Information Department of the Colonial Office are distributed locally. Supplies of literature are distributed as judiciously as possible to the many thousands of educated Africans who are eager for information and knowledge. Large numbers of British magazines are regularly sent to district headquarters where they are handed down through Native Authorities to individual Africans. These publications are in great demand and pass through many hands until they finally disintegrate through use. It is hoped that the supply of material will induce Africans to get together in reading rooms and form discussion groups. The demand for such publications, however, still greatly exceeds the supply; posters and photographs of the Royal Family are always in the greatest demand.

The photographic section of the Department added 794 new negatives to its files and produced 6,210 enlargements during the year. Of

these, 99 were large mounted photographs, specially made for the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition, and the majority of the remainder were used for Press and publicity purposes, for sale to the public and for official use. Requests for photographs were received from commercial concerns, from publicity offices, from newspapers and magazines, from authors of books and from Government departments. Twelve film-strips were made for the Department of Agriculture and one set was sent to the Imperial College of Agriculture in Trinidad.

The development of the tourist industry is another responsibility of the Public Relations Department. A publicity bureau is maintained in Blantyre, which has the dual function of providing information about Nyasaland to tourists and of providing information to residents about other holiday centres. The number of tourists entering the Protectorate during 1953 was less than in the previous year, the total number of visitors shown on the immigration returns being 3,825 compared with 4,869 in 1952. This decrease was largely due to the cancellation of air excursions to the Lake, owing to the fact that the Salima airfield was unfit for heavy aircraft. The necessary repairs have now been effected and excursions will start again in 1954. The Lake steamer, *Ilala II*, continued to offer eight-day cruises round the Lake and a number of tourists took advantage of these. A new edition of the tourist handbook was produced during the year.

The Department was involved during the first half of the year in extensive preparations for the Coronation celebrations, including the selection and ordering of £600 worth of fireworks and quantities of other equipment; arrangements for showing the Coronation film; the production and supply to the Press of illustrations and articles on the Coronation; the distribution of souvenir booklets and posters; and the co-ordination of decorations in the Capital. The Department also co-operated in the production of a large bound volume of loyal addresses from all sections of the community and the territorial address was engrossed and illuminated by the Director of Public Relations.

The Nyasaland Stand at the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition in Bulawayo, which ran from May to August, was entirely "home-made". It was designed by the Public Relations Department, the plywood was presented by the Nyasaland Plywood Company and construction was undertaken by the African Lakes Corporation, the whole prefabricated set being transported from Blantyre to Bulawayo. The stand showed a number of agricultural exhibits as well as a model of the Lake steamer, *Ilala II*, side by side with a model of the old stern-wheel river steamer, *Centipede*; models of the new Mudi Dam near Blantyre and the proposed Mpatamanga Gorge Dam, which may form part of the Shire Valley Project; a contour model of the Protectorate, made by the Director of Public Relations, which is now on view in the publicity bureau in Blantyre; and a display illustrating the advance in Posts and Telecommunications in the Protectorate during the past three years. Stamps to the value of £1,045 were sold at the Exhibition as well as a number of curios in ivory, wood and basketware.

## Chapter 13. Local Forces

There are two regular Nyasaland battalions of the King's African Rifles. Their officers are seconded from British Regiments. They have, in addition, a number of British non-commissioned officers, the balance of the rank and file consisting of Africans. The battalions now form part of the Central Africa Command and are liable to be posted to any theatre of operations. In January, 1952, the First Battalion left for service in Malaya, the Second Battalion remaining in the Protectorate. The Second Battalion replaced the First Battalion in Malaya in May, 1953, and remained there for the rest of the year.

The first levies of these battalions were raised from the Atonga at the end of the nineteenth century for the purpose of suppressing the slave-trade of the Yaos. Further companies of Anyanja and Yao were soon added and in 1899 the Second Battalion was formed. At that time the Battalions were designated as "The Central Africa Regiment" but this title was changed to "King's African Rifles" in 1901. Instruction, in these early days, was carried out by Sikh non-commissioned officers.

Subsequently, the two Nyasaland Battalions, as well as the additional battalions added to them during the two world wars, have served with distinction throughout tropical Africa, in Somaliland, Abyssinia, Madagascar and Burma. During the first world war an additional four line battalions were raised while in the second, an additional seven line battalions and two field regiments of artillery were raised as well as 4,000 drivers in the East African Army Service Corps and numerous other garrison and ancillary troops.

The Nyasaland Volunteer Reserve Force was initiated in 1900, with the object of providing a reserve force of trained marksmen for service in case of emergency. It was officially recognized as a Government institution in 1901 and in 1908 a Volunteer Reserve Ordinance was passed by which members obtained the free issue of a Government rifle, 300 rounds of ammunition per annum for practice purposes and could earn a capitation grant on passing the Government efficiency tests.

During the first world war the Volunteer Reserve took an active part in the repulsion of the Germans at Kasoa, a few miles north of Karonga and in subsequent operations. Later, however, it ceased to exist as an operational unit and in 1951 the provisions for active service were deleted from the Ordinance. The Reserve does, however, still perform a most useful function in training its members in the use of small arms.

During 1952 Police (Special Constables) Regulations were enacted

under the Police Ordinance. These regulations provided for the enrolment of special constables of any race. A considerable number of special constables have now been enrolled and the Special Constable Force proved of great value during the 1953 disturbances.

A total of £50,000 was again contributed in 1953 to Her Majesty's Government for the maintenance of the King's African Rifles. Government expenditure on the Nyasaland Volunteer Reserve was £1,165.

## Chapter 14. General

### DOMASI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

A Community Development Scheme was proposed in 1948 with the object of studying intensively in a small area problems of rural development under Nyasaland conditions, with particular emphasis on local government, taxation and land usage. Fundamentally, it was to be a research scheme for the benefit of the whole community and not a pilot project. It was intended from the beginning that in due course the selected area should be used for training Africans from all parts of the Protectorate in local government work and in rural development generally.

In 1949 the Domasi area was chosen for the scheme and the officer in charge was appointed. The year was spent in preparatory work such as building, assembling staff, mapping, etc. The scheme proper started in 1950 but delays were caused firstly, by the building programme, secondly, by the 1949/50 famine and finally, by Federation agitation which culminated in 1953 in the resignation of the Chief Malemia. The scheme is due for completion at the end of 1954 and the results so far achieved may be summarized under the following heads.

#### *General and Taxation*

Much of what has been achieved at Domasi has been the result of team work, which was effected largely by the concentration of staff in a single block of offices.

One of the first tasks undertaken was an investigation into the system of tax registration. From a general point of view this resulted in very necessary tightening up in the issue of tax exemption certificates. From a local point of view it led to a considerable increase in tax collection (from 1,074 local taxes in 1949 to 3,252 in 1953) and indicated that, with a better system of registration and collection, Protectorate revenue from tax would probably increase by some 10 per cent. at an additional annual cost of not more than one-tenth of the increase.

#### *Local Government*

The disorganized state of local society called for something to take the place of village headmen as the executive agents of local government in the villages. Initial use of group headmen indicated that at the present stage groups of more than a thousand people could not effectively be administered by one executive. Villages were therefore divided within groups into "wards" under salaried "ward leaders" and if the experiment proves successful the system may well prove useful in other areas where similar conditions prevail.

The annual revenue of the Native Treasury increased from £440 in 1950 to £1,224 in 1953 and, although some of this increase is due to increased grants-in-aid to the Junior Primary School, much of it can be ascribed to more efficient collection and to the willingness of the Council to raise additional funds to meet expenditure which it thinks desirable and over which it has some control. In particular, revenue is being raised by the imposition of a local rate, the collection of which has in itself provided a number of interesting lessons. Audit of the Native Treasury accounts by a Government Auditor was found to be useful, profitable and instructive.

Local government operations were considerably impeded by two years of political agitation, culminating in the resignation in 1953 of Chief Malemia as Native Authority. Three of the six group headmen, however, remained openly loyal and the education and finance committees continued to operate satisfactorily.

Lessons learnt from the operation of local government in the area have been used in formulating the instruction given at the Local Government training school, mentioned below.

### *Land Usage*

An early task was a detailed study of local land tenure and usage. The need for consolidation of holdings, if any real progress was to be made in African agricultural methods, led to proposals for a new type of tenure to encourage and maintain consolidation. The Malosa settlement scheme was established as a full scale demonstration, operated by African cultivators themselves with official advice, of the benefits of consolidation. Attempts to persuade two well-organized villages to undertake consolidation voluntarily have so far failed but it is hoped that the application of the Master Farmer Scheme and the possible introduction of ploughing may help to overcome the natural resistance to such a basic innovation.

The other major problem has been soil conservation. When the scheme began there was little idea of the purpose of or necessity for, soil conservation measures. Now streambanks are generally respected, hut-compounds are mostly grassed, some 800 check-dams have been put into gullies and 90 per cent. of the District has been pegged for bunding, some 85 per cent. of the pegged area having already been bunded. The increase in soil conservation consciousness is indicated by the reduction in the number of convictions for soil conservation offences over the past three years; in 1951 when seven square miles were supervised there were 213 convictions, in 1952 when 24 square miles were supervised there were 188 convictions and in 1953 when 45 square miles were supervised there were 120 convictions.

The result of all these measures is to be seen in the Domasi River, which runs through the station. Figures of soil losses prior to the introduction of soil conservation do not exist but the rate of loss from the Mudi catchment near Blantyre is 7,500 tons per square mile per day

and it is reasonable to suppose that losses from the Domasi catchment were of the same order; now losses amount to 1.6 tons per square mile per day. A number of practical lessons have emerged from these operations which may prove of value in other areas.

In most of the District there is neither room nor adequate dry-weather grazing for cattle but the two private cattle-owners have been helped to improve the quartering and management of their herds and are contributing towards an expanding market for milk. One of the owners composts his manure and gets good results from applying the manure to his garden.

In these circumstances attention has mainly been focussed on small stock and considerable improvement in management has taken place. A promising approach has been through the Young Farmers' Clubs which are now attached to five of the local schools. Some success has also been achieved in the encouragement of poultry-keeping and market gardening.

The domestic forestry problem had to be tackled in the face of deep suspicion of Government's intentions. Nevertheless, some thousands of seedlings have now been sold to individuals or issued free to schools and an experiment in the planned exploitation and replanting of village forest areas, under the auspices of the Native Administration, is now in progress. This, if successful, should mean a steady supply of poles and firewood for the villages concerned.

### *Health*

The area had long enjoyed the services of a dispensary and a maternity clinic but had little experience of preventive medicines. Prior to the initiation of a medical survey in 1951 the efforts of the team were mainly directed against dirt and towards the encouragement of a wider appreciation of existing medical facilities.

Average daily attendances at the dispensary have risen by 22 per cent. since 1950. Births at the clinic have increased by 115 per cent. Attendances at the ante-natal and child welfare clinics have also risen by 40 to 50 per cent. The picture is not, however, as satisfactory as it looks as great difficulty is still experienced in persuading patients to complete courses of treatment found necessary.

As a result of the attack on dirt there has been considerable improvement in living conditions in the past four years. There are many more ashpits, many more houses with outside kitchens and decent windows and at least 75 per cent. of houses have latrines which have passed inspection by a sanitary assistant. Considerable improvements to water supplies have taken place.

A medical survey of the area was begun in 1951 and a medical officer was posted to it for full-time duty in 1952. The general survey was completed in 1953 and a survey of school children was begun. One of the objects of the survey is to evolve a method of approach suitable

for application to other areas of the Protectorate and a large amount of useful information has been obtained. In particular it is hoped to evolve a formula by which preventive measures in respect of bilharzia, one of the most important diseases in Domasi, can be applied to African areas.

### *Education*

An independent survey in 1949 suggested that apart from the need for developing one or two schools into junior primary schools, existing facilities were sufficient for the needs of the area for some time to come. More detailed investigation soon showed that this was not so and that there was both a need and a demand for many more primary places. This in due course led to the establishment of seven unassisted village schools, financed by the Native Administration and managed by its Education Committee under the professional guidance of the African Inspector of Schools and the Mass Education Assistant. In 1953 four of these were also given instruction akin to Standards I and II. The Native Administration also manages a full-range junior primary school which receives the normal grant-in-aid from Government. Its unassisted schools are financed by the Native Treasury.

These operations, originally called the “*Kwaca* Experiment” arose from investigations of the demand for adult literacy classes and of the number of children who had really suffered from the application of age limits for entry into ordinary schools. They have indicated that the “over-age” problem was in fact much smaller than some maintained and have resulted in an opportunity being given to every child in the area to obtain elementary instruction.

In order to assess whether this form of instruction does in fact provide a satisfactory basis for further education, the progress of the two groups, the “*kwaca*” group and the normal group, was watched after the pupils had mingled in Standards I and II. Comparative results showed that in 1952 85 per cent. of the normal group and 83 per cent. of the “*kwaca*” group passed Standard I and in 1953 76 per cent. of the normal group and 67 per cent. of the “*kwaca*” group passed Standard I and 71 per cent. of the normal group and 78 per cent. of the “*kwaca*” group passed Standard II. In 1953 an additional comparison was made between the centres giving instruction akin to Standards I and II and the three recognized Junior Primary Schools in the area. Of those tested on the Standard I basis 87 per cent. of the Junior Primary group passed and 59 per cent. of the “*kwaca*” group; in the Standard II test the percentages were respectively 77 and 50.

These figures indicate that informal instruction under unqualified teachers, while it cannot be expected to provide as good or as lasting results as the normal type of education, does at least provide a fair foundation. The system involves little expenditure and is within the means of the Native Administration and it does satisfy, on an emergency basis, the demand for more educational facilities. There is,

however, no indication of the degree of permanency of literacy acquired by this means.

There has been little demand for adult literacy classes. Two attempts in this direction were made but met with little response and of those who enrolled less than 30 successfully completed a course. The apathy of the women was particularly noticeable. There are two night schools in the District but these cater mainly for young people with a little education who are too old to go on in ordinary schools or who have not been able to find room in Standards II or above. The conclusion has been reached that the real future of adult education in rural conditions lies in specialized instruction dealing in subjects likely to be of practical value to the pupil and not involving any paper qualifications.

### *Self-help*

The idea of self-help is a most difficult one to inculcate into a people used to having all decisions taken for them and the audience at Domasi to whom it was first preached were both astonished and suspicious. Nevertheless, voluntary effort, helped with materials and skilled labour, has produced eight bridges, a village hall and more than 50 improved water holes and is now concerned with the control of the major gullies in the area.

Social organizations have had varied success. Of the seven Women's Institutes only three survived the absence of the Welfare Officer on leave. Scout and guide troops having connections with the Government collapsed at the time of the Coronation boycott but the small troop attached to the Scout headquarters survived both that, and the absence of the Commissioner on leave, and was stronger than ever when he returned. Young Farmers' Clubs are perhaps better suited to the present stage of development among young people than organizations with high ethical standards and these have proved extremely popular and successful.

In promoting the idea of self-help the principle has been adopted that help should be provided for those willing to help themselves and this has been done not only in the spheres of agriculture, livestock, forestry, housing, wells, etc. but also in training people to manage their own businesses and to take part in the local affairs of the area.

### *Local Government Training School*

The need to train local government staff has been appreciated for some considerable time. Proposals for the establishment of a local government training school were considered in 1950 but for reasons of staff and finance had to be set aside. In May, 1952, a capital grant of £12,625 was approved and work on the building of the school was begun at Domasi. Progress was sufficiently rapid to enable the first course to be opened on 1st December, 1952.

Two courses are held each year and are attended by Native Authority teams which usually consist of Chief, Councillor, Clerk and

Agricultural Ranger. Each student is allowed to bring a wife and two children of school-age. Arrangements are made to teach the wives dress-making, cookery, infant welfare, domestic cleanliness and hygiene.

The syllabus of the course is based on a four-months period and covers instruction in educational improvement, local government, judicial and court procedure, local government works, land usage and animal husbandry and preventive medicine and village improvement. In addition lectures are given by Heads of Departments and visits are paid to places of interest such as the Government Press and the Police Training School in Zomba.

It is as yet early to assess the effects of the courses but reports on returning teams which have been received from districts are most encouraging and indicate that the school is likely to prove of the greatest possible value in the development of local government in the territory.

### TSETSE SURVEY

The tsetse survey of the Protectorate, financed by a grant from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund, continued and the main belts of the Southern and Central Provinces were completed. The final report is now in the course of preparation. The survey, begun in 1950, is designed to obtain precise data concerning the distribution and ecology of the tsetse fly in Nyasaland and has already proved the basis of a resettlement scheme in the south-west of Kasungu District. Villages were evicted from this area in 1922 as a precaution against the spread of sleeping sickness, a promise being made that they should return when the danger passed. The tsetse survey showed that the area was free of fly and the promise is now being honoured. A number of villages have returned to take up land, farming it on a rotation basis, under the supervision of the Agricultural Department.

A special survey was undertaken to ascertain whether any fly were present in the region of Nchenachena in the Northern Province, where an outbreak of trypanosomiasis recently occurred in a herd of cattle imported by the Department of Agriculture. Investigation did not reveal the presence of any species of tsetse fly and suggested that the cattle concerned had arrived at Nchenachena with a previous history of the disease.

Active reclamation work on the Karonga Lake-shore continued on a larger scale than previously and with a technique improved in the light of past experience. It is now considered that all suitable habitats of the fly have been eradicated south of the Kasantha, whilst the sheer felling technique, in the gullies on South Yembe, has resulted in a very considerable reduction of fly. During the rains there was some little recrudescence of fly in the areas already cleared, but nothing approaching the upsurge in the neighbouring areas which have not yet been dealt with.

The sudden appearance in 1951 and 1952 of a number of cases of human trypanosomiasis in the Chikwawa District, which had been free for two or three decades, gave rise to some disquiet. Three further cases were reported in 1953, one of which proved fatal. Investigations were made, using the results of the tsetse survey and recommendations for dealing with the outbreak were made to the Trypanosomiasis Committee. During the year regular inspections were carried out in the area and close liaison was maintained with the Portuguese Authorities in the contiguous district to the west.

## PART III

### Chapter I. Geography and Climate

The Protectorate of Nyasaland is some 520 miles in length and varies in width from 50 to 100 miles; it lies approximately between  $9^{\circ} 45'$  and  $17^{\circ} 16'$  south latitude and  $33^{\circ}$  and  $36'$  east longitude. It is bounded on the east by Tanganyika and Portuguese East Africa, on the south by Portuguese East Africa, on the west by Portuguese East Africa and Northern Rhodesia and on the north by Tanganyika. The land area of the Protectorate is about 37,000 square miles or nearly three-quarters of the area of England; the southern tip of the country is 130 miles from the sea.

The key to the physiography of the Protectorate is that part of the great rift valley which, running down from the north, traverses Nyasaland from end to end. In this deep trough lies Lake Nyasa, 360 miles long and varying in width from 10 to 50 miles; the surface of the Lake is 1,500 feet above sea level and its greatest depth about 2,300 feet, so that the lowest part of the floor of the trough is over 700 feet below sea-level. From the south end of the Lake issues the River Shire, which falls to 120 feet above sea level at Port Herald and finally joins the Zambesi 250 miles from the Lake.

The country east and west of the Rift Valley rises in mountains, generally steep and sometimes precipitous, to form high plateaux; west of the Lake these are generally between 3,300 and 4,400 feet above sea level, but in the north the Nyika uplands rise as high as 8,000 feet. South of the Lake lie the Shire Highlands with a general elevation of 2,000 to 3,500 feet rising to the mountain masses of Zomba (7,000 feet) and Mlanje (10,000 feet). In the extreme south the rift, occupied by the lower part of the Shire, is only 200 to 300 feet above sea level.

The only other geographical features of any note are the two minor Lakes, Chiuta and Chilwa, which lie on the Portuguese border on the East, between Lake Nyasa and the Mlanje range.

The administrative capital of the country is Zomba, situated some 65 miles south of the Lake on the lower slopes of Zomba Mountain. It has an estimated population of 550 Europeans, 380 Asians and 4,500 Africans. The largest commercial centre of the Protectorate is the dual township of Blantyre/Limbe, situated on the railway about 40 miles south-west of Zomba. Although the boundaries of the two towns are contiguous their affairs are administered by two separate town councils. The combined population is estimated at 2,100 Europeans, 2,800 Asians and an African population varying seasonally

between 12,000 and 20,000. Further north the most important town is Lilongwe, the headquarters of the Central Province, which has an estimated population of 210 Europeans, 220 Asians and 3,000 Africans.

On the Lake-shore there is a distinctive climate; the temperature seldom rises above 100° F., but the proximity of the Lake and the generally heavy rainfall during the wet season create a humid atmosphere which is trying. Elsewhere the climate varies with the altitude. In the Highlands it is equable and healthy; while at altitudes above 3,000 feet extreme heat is unusual and fires are welcome in the evenings of the cold season; in the Shire Valley the temperature rises to 115° F. in October and November.

The rainfall divides the year into two seasons, the dry season from May to October and the wet season from November to April. The first rains are due at any time after mid-October and from then until the end of December there are violent thunderstorms with heavy rain. These storms are usually of quite short duration and the intervals between them are apt to become hot and oppressive. Steady rains should be established in January and continue until about the end of March, often rising to a crescendo of storms during the last week or two of the season; dry spells of a week or more frequently occur about the beginning of February. After March rainfall diminishes rapidly and from May to September the climate is on the whole cool and dry; heavy Scotch mists, known locally as "Chiperones" (as they appear to come from Chipirone Mountain in Portuguese territory), are common in the Highlands in June and July. The country can be divided into some seven zones of rainfall with annual falls ranging from 30 ins. to over 70 ins., and the distribution of the dry season fall determines the areas suitable for certain crops; it has been suggested, for example, that the limit of the true tea, coffee and tung areas of the country may be traced on the dry season rainfall map by the 7-in. isohyet.

The small size of Nyasaland and the great variety of physical and climatic conditions within it, greatly though they add to the attractiveness of the country, account together for many difficulties and much of the expense involved in its administration and development.

## Chapter 2. History

Nyasaland is Livingstone's country. It is true that there are various Portuguese records from 1616 onwards of occasional journeys across the southern end of what is now the Protectorate, and that in the eighteenth century Portuguese officials and miners penetrated into the neighbourhood of the present Northern Rhodesia border, not far from the site of Fort Jameson; but none of these left any lasting trace. It is also true that from an indefinite date, perhaps the sixteenth century, until almost the end of the nineteenth, there was constant passage through Nyasaland by migrating Bantu tribes, but their traditions, as at present known, are too vague to be given the name of history.

The history of Nyasaland can therefore be said to begin with David Livingstone's discovery of Lake Nyasa on 16th September, 1859. In the early 'sixties the path he had opened was followed, under his guidance, by the pioneers of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, but in the short time between these expeditions the country had been defaced by tribal wars and slave raids in a way which made a harrowing contrast to the smiling land and people seen earlier by the great explorer. The missionary pioneers retired in the face of disease and death, after suffering heavy and tragic losses, and the Universities' Mission did not return until 1881.

After Livingstone's death, and inspired by it, both the Church of Scotland and the Free Church of Scotland established Missions in 1874/5 as memorials to him, the former at Blantyre, named after his Scottish birthplace, and the latter at Livingstonia, first sited at the south end of the Lake but soon removed to the north. At this period, to quote the Bell Report, "Nyasaland was a whirlpool of migrant tribes, war and slave raiding and during the dry season caravans of slaves in chains and slavesticks started from the areas round the mission stations for the coast ports". These constituted a challenge which neither Christianity nor ordinary European humanity could ignore, and it is to the eternal credit of the Scottish Missions that next after Livingstone's name in the roll of Nyasaland's great pioneers must be inscribed the names of Robert Laws of Livingstonia and Alexander Hetherwick of Blantyre, to whose services the country largely owes the growth of a Pax Britannica rather than the imposition of a Pax Romana.

At this early period there were no means of obtaining supplies or services, except by the exchange of trade goods, chiefly calico, and the Missions had perforce to trade. To relieve the missionaries of much of the commercial side of their activities a number of business men, mainly from Glasgow, who were interested in Livingstonia,

formed in 1878 the African Lakes Company as a transport and trading concern to work in close co-operation with Mission activities. The original heads of the company (now the African Lakes Corporation) were the brothers Moir. One of their objects was to achieve Livingstone's aim of combating the slave trade, rendering it economically unsound in the face of legitimate commerce as well as by the spreading of Christianity.

These pioneers were followed by other Europeans, missionaries, traders, hunters and coffee planters, but not until 1883 did a representative of the British Government appear in the shape of a Consul, Captain Foot, accredited to "the Kings and Chiefs of Central Africa"; the second consul, Captain Hawes, established himself at Zomba, now the seat of Government.

By now the first of Nyasaland's nineteenth century invaders, the Angoni—who are entitled to claim descent from Chaka's Zulu—had almost ended their wanderings, which had taken them in 50 years from Natal to Lake Tanganyika and back to the hinterland of Lake Nyasa; the Yao, starting from somewhere about the headwaters of Rovuma River, on the modern border between Tanganyika and Portuguese East Africa, were still on the move round the south end of the Lake, warring as they went. At the same time the slave traders at the north end of the country were becoming steadily more inconvenienced by the competition of religion and commerce with which they were now faced, and in 1888 trouble, followed by open warfare, arose between the Arab leaders of the trade and the African Lakes Company, who had to expend most of their resources on military operations. Fortunately for Nyasaland, these operations came under the eye of Cecil Rhodes whose British South Africa Company came to the rescue financially.

About this time too the Portuguese Government began to cast interested eyes on the land to the north of the Zambesi, on which river it had long had military and trading posts, and there was a certain degree of international friction. In 1889, however, one cause of friction was removed by the discovery of a navigable route through the Zambesi delta from the Indian Ocean which made Nyasaland accessible, by way of the Zambesi and the Shire, by an international waterway without touching Portuguese Territory. Nevertheless, in the same year a conflict took place on the Lower Shire between a well-armed Portuguese expedition under Major Serpa Pinto and one of the Makololo Chiefs, in consequence of which the Acting Consul, a pioneer planter named Buchanan, claimed a British Protectorate over the Shire country on 21st September, 1889, almost exactly 30 years after Livingstone first set foot on the shores of Lake Nyasa.

In 1891 an Anglo-Portuguese Convention ratified the work of Mr. H. H. (later Sir Harry) Johnston, Mr. A. (later Sir Alfred) Sharpe and others and a Protectorate was proclaimed over the countries adjoining Lake Nyasa; in 1898 the name of the territory was changed

to British Central Africa Protectorate, but in 1907 a further Order-in-Council revived the old name of Nyasaland Protectorate. It must here be emphasized that Nyasaland did not fall under British influence by conquest or annexation; it was led under the protection of the Crown by British missionaries and traders with, as first the Proclamation put it, "the consent and desire of the Chiefs and people".

By 1896 the slave trade had been extinguished and the countries of the Yao and the Southern Angoni pacified, although the Northern Angoni did not come fully within the sphere of British Administration until 1904. They had, however, long given up raiding their neighbours, partly because of an unpleasant military surprise inflicted on them by the Achewa to the south, but undoubtedly mainly because of the immense influence acquired over their Paramount Chief by Dr. Laws to whom, with his colleagues, was due the peaceful entry into the British Commonwealth of a 100,000 people with their 5,000 square miles of territory.

Since then the life of the country has on the whole been peaceful, though of course affected like that of every other country by the two World Wars. Nyasaland's position in 1914 with her long common border with German East Africa was dangerous, but prompt action on both land and water scotched the immediate danger and she was able to contribute greatly to the British forces which waged the long and costly East African campaign. It was during this war that the Chilembwe rising took place when one John Chilembwe, a native pastor half-educated in the United States and egged on by the German authorities, rose with his followers in the Blantyre neighbourhood and murdered several Europeans against whom the rebels had personal grudges; rapid counter-measures were taken and the rising fizzled out with the death of its leader in a scuffle in the bush on the Portuguese border. To the credit of these misguided men it must be mentioned that such European women and children as fell into their hands were treated with the utmost consideration.

Nineteen hundred and thirty-nine found the Protectorate far from any front, but nevertheless able to aid the war effort very considerably, in relation to her size, in both men and materials. In peacetime, Nyasaland raises the two senior regular battalions of the King's African Rifles and the First Battalion maintained its pride of place by being the first African colonial unit to be in action, in 1940, against the Italians on the Abyssinian border; and the last out of action in 1945 in the neighbourhood of Rangoon. Between these two dates it added Abyssinia, Madagascar and Burma to a list of campaigning grounds which in the previous 50 years had embraced much of tropical Africa. By the end of the war nearly 30,000 Nyasalanders, including a very high proportion of the Protectorate's small European population—men and women—had served in the forces and to the two original battalions had been added a further seven line battalions, two field regiments of artillery, over 4,000 drivers in the East African Army Service

Corps and numerous other garrison and ancillary troops. The wandering habits of the natives of the country, to which fuller reference is made below, led also to their appearance in many non-Nyasaland units of the East African Forces, in the non-European units of the Union Defence Force and in the pioneers; a few of the last-named had the misfortune to be taken prisoner at Tobruk and thereby made the acquaintance of Italy and Germany before they were liberated.

Nineteen hundred and fifty-one saw celebrations in connection with the Diamond Jubilee of the declaration of a British Protectorate over the countries adjoining Lake Nyasa. It was an occasion for reflection on the notable advances which have taken place during 60 years of comparatively peaceful and prosperous British rule. Considering the social and economic conditions which prevailed towards the end of the nineteenth century, the growth of peace and prosperity, the establishment of law and order, the evolution of a political and social consciousness together with the maintenance of inter-racial harmony amount to a considerable achievement in so short a space of time. The emphasis laid by Africans in their loyal addresses on May 15th, 1951, on the benefits resulting from 60 years of British rule was most gratifying to those who had played some part in the Nyasaland epic.

The great constitutional change, embodied in the proposals for the Federation of Nyasaland with Northern and Southern Rhodesia, was first put before the population in 1951 and continued in 1952 to be the subject of discussion throughout the Protectorate. The conference at the Victoria Falls, held in September, 1951, was followed by a change of Government in the United Kingdom. In November, 1951, however, a statement was made in Parliament endorsing the conclusions of the conference and undertaking to further the discussions and consultations which had taken place. As a result of this undertaking informal talks were held in London in January, 1952, at which the Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia and the Governors of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland were present. These were followed by a conference in London in April, 1952, at which Nyasaland was represented by His Excellency the Governor, the Secretary for African Affairs and four unofficial European members. African representatives were invited to attend but declined at the last minute to do so. The conference produced the Draft Federal Scheme, Command 8573, which was published in June, 1952.

The final conference was held in London, after preparatory discussions in December, during January, 1953. Nyasaland was represented by His Excellency the Governor, the Financial Secretary, the Secretary for African Affairs, the Deputy Chief Secretary and three prominent unofficials. This conference produced the Federal Scheme (Command Paper 8753) which was later accepted by the three Central African Governments and Her Majesty's Government. The meeting of the Nyasaland Legislative Council which made this decision was held in April, 1953; and the Order in Council establishing the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland was issued by Her Majesty on the 1st August,

together with an Order providing that the constitution should become effective on 3rd September, 1953. An interim Federal Government was then formed to conduct the business of the Federation until proper elections could be held.

On 15th December, 1953, the first general election ever held in Nyasaland took place when four European members were elected to the Federal Assembly. The qualifications required for nomination and for voting and the procedure to be adopted had previously been published in the form of regulations. On the same day two African members were elected by the African Protectorate Council, which had been declared as the body representative of African opinion for the purposes of this election. Both elections passed off without incident and the elected members have since taken part in the deliberations of the Federal Assembly. In addition, one European member of the Assembly was nominated by the Governor as representative of African interests.

In May, 1953, Native Authority Gomani, local authority for the whole of Ncheu District in the Central Province, initiated a campaign of active opposition to Federation by issuing instructions that various Government laws were not to be obeyed in his area. Police action was necessary to remove Chief Gomani from the district and Government thereupon ceased to recognize him as a Native Authority, responsibility for the administration of his area being temporarily assumed by the District Commissioner and later divided between the six subordinate Native Authorities of the District.

Shortly after this, a number of other Native Authorities resigned in protest against Federation. Some of these later applied for reinstatement as Native Authorities. In certain cases these requests were granted; in the remainder the Native Authorities concerned ceased to be recognized by Government.

In August and September, 1953, disturbances occurred in the Southern Province of the Protectorate. Federation had undoubtedly filled the political atmosphere with tension but the basic cause of the disturbances can be traced to land hunger and dislike of the tenant system, existing grievances being exploited by unscrupulous political agitators. The people affected were mainly Alomwe immigrants from Portuguese Territory.

On the night of 18th August, on an European estate at Luchenza in the Cholo District, where it was known that oranges were being stolen from the orchard, a small party of Europeans and Africans lay in wait for the thieves and managed to seize two of them whilst leaving the plantation with full sacks of oranges. A crowd quickly gathered and the thieves had to be released. The next day, at the house of the estate-owner, a large and hostile crowd gathered and police were called to assist in dispersing it. One African subsequently died of injuries received.

During the following days the disturbances spread to other parts

of the Cholo District as well as to the Blantyre, Chikwawa, Port Herald and Domasi Districts of the Southern Province. Gangs of armed Africans moved about in the area, encouraging estate labour to cease working, forming road blocks with felled trees, ditches, etc., cutting telephone wires and finally destroying Native Authority buildings and even in some cases "deposing" the lawful Native Authorities. Political agitators moved through the affected zone, holding illegal meetings and fanning the flames wherever they appeared to be dying down.

In order to deal with the situation Government obtained police reinforcements from Tanganyika, Northern Rhodesia and Southern Rhodesia. These, together with the Nyasaland Police and the Special Constable Force, patrolled the area dispersing crowds and restoring law and order in every way possible. Baton charges and the use of tear smoke were frequently necessary and on more than one occasion the police had to open fire on the crowd. By the end of September law and order had once more been restored. Eleven Africans were killed during the whole period of the disturbances and many more were injured. Several of the ringleaders were brought to trial and a number of convictions were obtained.

As a result of these events Government undertook a close examination into the causes of dissatisfaction among Africans in the Territory, particularly in relation to land, and attempts to find a solution to the various complex problems involved are still being made.

The social and economic history of the country since its proclamation as a Protectorate is, on the whole, one of slow but steady progress in the face of many difficulties. Migratory tribal units have become stabilized and the last flood of immigrants was one of Africans from Portuguese Territory, swarming over the border in search of work on the tea estates and later settling down in the Southern Province. Thanks largely to the work of the Missions, which have now among them representatives of the Roman Catholic Church, the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa and the Seventh Day Adventists, as well as the successors of the Scottish and Anglican pioneers. Education has made considerable strides, craftsmen continue to increase in numbers and medical aid has reached far beyond the more settled areas of the country. The influence of western culture has undoubtedly done much to drag the African from the anchorage of his tribal beliefs and discipline but on the credit side there has probably been the building up of a greater degree of sound moral character than the superficial observer often believes; as in material progress much of the credit belongs to the Missions, so in this moral sphere much is due to the influence and example of lay Europeans both men and women. A current task is the inculcation among Africans of a spirit of voluntary service to their fellows which had not been encouraged by an earlier insistence on the virtues of rugged individualism. As social welfare activities grow so will the field for such service expand, but already the opportunity is there, in probation work, in scouting,

and in the management of such recreational activities as football leagues.

Reference has already been made to the wandering habits of the Nyasaland African; travel is in his blood, life at home is apt to be dull and in a predominantly agricultural country cash returns have until recently been low by comparison with those of other countries. It was not long, therefore, after the pacification of the country before the African began to find his way to the higher cash wages of Rhodesia and the bright lights of the Rand. The Nyasa is now to be found in South Africa, the Rhodesias, Tanganyika, Kenya, the Belgian Congo, Portuguese East Africa and London; he has also been reported from the New York waterfront. The stream of emigrants swelled steadily until by the nineteen-thirties it is safe to say that nearly a third of the able-bodied men were away from Nyasaland. Since then measures have been taken to control the flow to some extent, to safeguard the emigrant while out of the country and to ensure that in as many cases as possible he and his savings return home after a fairly short period, either for good or for regular holidays. The country's contribution to the economic progress of its neighbours will thus be seen to have been considerable, possibly too considerable for its own good.

Otherwise, the economic history of Nyasaland is its agricultural history, which is a record of pioneer planting, mostly with little previous experimental work, by Europeans of single products over large areas of land. The earliest economic crop was coffee and a coffee tree figures prominently in the Protectorate's first coat of arms. Coffee was later displaced by cotton which in turn gave way to tobacco and tea and these two may now be regarded as the Protectorate's main cash crops. Tung has grown steadily in importance but its position as a major crop will depend largely on the experiments now being carried out in connection with the Vipya development scheme. The last few years have also seen the establishment of certain minor secondary industries but it is unlikely that these will ever be of more than local importance. They do, however, contribute considerably to the comfort and well-being of the population in the provision of cheap soap, cigarettes and shoe leather.

No sketch of the history of Nyasaland would be complete without a reference to the development of its communications. In the early days the Zambesi, the Shire and Lake Nyasa provided the main artery of communication, interrupted only by the 60 mile portage round the Murchison cataracts on the Shire. By the time that the Chinde mouth of the Zambesi was discovered in 1889, the level of the Shire had begun to fall and steamers could not proceed beyond Chiromo. The growing importance of Blantyre led to the planning of a railway to it from the Lower Shire and in 1907 work was begun on a line from Chiromo to Blantyre; almost immediately, however, the continued fall in the level of the Shire made Chiromo useless as a port and the railway was continued to Port Herald, the line being opened in 1908. Port Herald then became difficult or impossible of approach for

steamers and between 1913 and 1915 a further 50 miles of railway were constructed between Port Herald and Chindio on the northern bank of the Zambesi in Portuguese Territory.

Meantime the level of the Upper Shire was also falling and in due course steamer traffic became impossible outside Lake Nyasa. The Blantyre-Zomba Road, one of the first to be made in the country, was therefore extended to Fort Johnston at the south end of the Lake and this was the main transport route in use during the first world war. The Protectorate is linked by road with all its neighbours and the trunk roads from Blantyre to Mbeya and from Salima to Fort Jameson are important parts of the main communications of Central Africa.

Navigation on the Zambesi next became uncertain and a railway, opened in 1922, was built from Murraca, on the south bank of the Zambesi, nearly opposite Chindio, to Dondo, 18 miles from Beira on the line from Beira to Rhodesia. The ferry service was, however, unsatisfactory and the line was frequently washed out by floods. In 1935, therefore, a railway bridge across the Zambesi was opened and at the same time the line was extended from Blantyre to the neighbourhood of Lake Nyasa at Salima, giving uninterrupted rail communication between the Lake at Chipoka and Beira on the Indian Ocean. As an illustration of the trials of those who plan in Africa it may be added that about the time this link was completed the Lake began to rise again and the Shire with it, so that in the rainy season the railway bridge at Chiromo might have more than 20 feet of water under it; a realignment of the track in this neighbourhood became urgently necessary. Early in 1948, a few months after this improvement had been completed, a great island of sudd, floating down the flooded Shire, carried away the Chiromo bridge and Nyasaland's railway link with the sea became dependent on a swiftly improvised ferry which remained in operation throughout 1949. A new steel bridge, completed during 1949, was put into service in 1950.

### Chapter 3. Administration

Considerable alterations to the administrative machinery of the Protectorate will result from the introduction of Federation, which took place during the year, and the Federal Government will in due course assume responsibility for the following departments: Medical, Posts and Telecommunications, Audit, Civil Aviation, Customs and Income Tax. This Chapter describes the administration of the Protectorate as it exists at present, prior to the assumption of such control by the Federal Government.

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor, assisted by the Executive Council, which comprises the persons for the time being lawfully discharging the functions of Chief Secretary, Attorney General and Financial Secretary as *ex officio* members and such other persons, styled Nominated Members, as may from time to time be appointed by Royal Instructions or Warrants or by the Governor in pursuance of Royal Instructions conveyed through the Secretary of State. Membership of Executive Council during 1953 is set out in an Appendix to this Chapter.

The laws of the Protectorate are made by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, constituted by the Nyasaland Order in Council, 1907. The Legislative Council consists of the persons from time to time lawfully discharging the functions of Chief Secretary, Attorney General and Financial Secretary as *ex officio* members and such other persons, styled Official Members, holding office of emolument under the Crown in the Protectorate as may from time to time be appointed by the Governor in pursuance of Royal Instructions, conveyed through the Secretary of State for the Colonies; and further such persons not holding office in the Protectorate as the Governor may similarly from time to time appoint and who are styled Unofficial Members. In 1953 the membership of the Legislative Council was increased by one official and one African unofficial member and at the end of the year comprised the Governor as President, the three *ex officio* Members, seven Official Members and ten Unofficial Members. The identity of the members of the Legislative Council during 1953 is given in an Appendix to this Chapter.

The judicial system is described in Part II Chapter 9 of this Report.

The principal departments of Government, apart from the Provincial and District Administration are: Judicial, Legal, Medical, Agriculture, Public Works, Education, Police, Prisons, Geological Survey, Labour, Veterinary, Forestry, Posts and Telecommunications, Electrical, Audit, Lands, Customs, Printing and Stationery, Co-operative, Game, Fish and Tsetse Control, Accountant General and Surveys.

The policy of the Government is defined and controlled in the Secretariat. The Chief Secretary is the channel of communication between Government on the one hand and heads of departments and the general public on the other. He is the head of the Civil Service.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate is divided into three Provinces, Northern, Central and Southern, each in the charge of a Provincial Commissioner, who is responsible to the Governor for the administration of his Province. The Provinces are divided into 18 Districts each in charge of a District Commissioner, who is responsible to the Provincial Commissioner. Provincial Commissioners and District Officers are responsible for the proper conduct of the Native Administration within their areas. Each of the districts contains one or more Native Authorities constituted as such under the Native Authority Ordinance, 1933. The size of the various Native Authorities' areas varies considerably and is dependent generally on the degree of tribal feeling and homogeneity which remained at the time of the introduction of the 1933 Ordinance. The largest population administered by any single Native Authority is 161,000 under Chief M'mbelwa of Mzimba; the smallest is the 280 of Chief Chikalema of the Blantyre District. The number of Native Authorities in each of the Provinces varies from 17 in the Northern Province to 43 in the Central Province and 70 in the Southern Province, a total of 130.

A "Native Authority" means any Chief or other African or any African Council or group of Africans declared to be or established as a Native Authority under the Native Authority Ordinance for the area concerned. The Government recognizes the Chief whom the people accept as Chief and, if he is suitable, appoints him to be a Native Authority. There always has been and still is very real regard on the part of the Africans for the state of chieftainship; nor is this regard confined to the illiterate or semi-educated inhabitants of rural areas.

Native Authorities are not officers of the Government but are established on a tribal basis, though there are some cases where Chiefs who in African eyes have no hereditary claim to title have in the past been appointed by the Administration, either because of the ability they displayed or because of the influence they acquired under the old District Administration (Native) Ordinance.

The Governor may withdraw recognition of a person as a Native Authority or as a member of a Native Authority and a Provincial Commissioner can exercise powers of suspension for three months or, with the Governor's approval, for one year in cases involving abuse of power, or for incapacity or other sufficient reason.

In all districts of the Central Province, except Ncheu, and in the Zomba and Blantyre Districts of the Southern Province, Councils of Chiefs have been established consisting of all the Native Authorities in a district sitting as a Council. The Councils of Chiefs have a statutory entity and function as a Native Authority superior to the individual Native Authorities of the district.

Although the Chief alone may be gazetted as Native Authority, local African custom does not recognize a Chief as having purely autocratic powers. The Chief is the figurehead and the embodiment of the Native Authority but he and his Council are inseparable. The tendency is towards the functioning of the Chief in Council as a minor local government unit and towards the strengthening of these Councils by making them more fully representative of all sections of the community, both to include more progressive and educated elements and also to secure their participation in the conduct of local government.

Appointments to the Chiefs' Councils are more elastic than those to the Chieftainship itself; councillors are not necessarily hereditary and appointment depends in many cases on public opinion. In some cases the composition of the Council is still determined by established native custom; in many others the customary practice has been modified so as to allow a broader basis of representation and expression of opinion.

Government takes no conclusive part in deciding the method of election to Chiefs' Councils although it has in recent years, and to some effect, stressed the necessity for the Councils to be genuinely representative and thus to command the support of the people themselves. Many Chiefs are now displaying a greater understanding of the need for support by representative councils and wherever possible these are being modelled on District Councils, which are described later in this Chapter.

Below the Chief's Council (*i.e.*, the Native Authority's Council) there are in most cases subordinate councils which include Group and Village Councils.

The village headman is still an important part of the Native Administration. In some cases these headmen derive their influence from the actual or traditional inheritance of powers exercised by family heads or recognized administrators of the land. In others they owe their authority to the position given to them by the Administration. They are numerous, and a great many of them are of little, if any, service to the Government. Until the system of representative councils is effectively established throughout the Protectorate from village level upwards, the village headman will remain to perform his function as the direct link between the ordinary villager and the Chief as well as with the District Commissioner.

Native Authorities have four inter-related responsibilities—executive, legislative, judicial and financial. When District Councils are formed under the new Local Government (District Councils) Ordinance, No. 48 of 1953, mentioned on page 154 they will assume many of the powers, particularly in the sphere of legislation and finance, now held by Native Authorities.

Executive responsibility is vested in Native Authorities by sections 8 and 9 of the Native Authority Ordinance, supplemented in some cases by the delegation of powers under those laws of Nyasaland,

such as the Game and Forestry laws, which largely concern Africans. Under the Ordinance, Native Authorities are empowered to issue orders "subject to the provisions of any law or Ordinance for the time being in force and to the general or special directions of the Governor". Within the area over which the Native Authority has jurisdiction these orders may relate to a number of subjects, such as the control and restriction of intoxicating liquor and gambling, the possession and carrying of firearms, the prohibition of any act or conduct which might lead to a breach of the peace, the carrying out of measures designed to safeguard public health, the reporting of crime and criminals, the regulation of migration within their areas, the reporting of births and deaths, the movement of livestock, the control of grass and bush fires, the protection of trees, the cultivation of food supplies, adequate to maintain an African and his dependants, the enforcement of any lawful instructions issued by the Provincial or District Commissioner and the prohibition, restriction or execution of any matter or thing which the Native Authority, by virtue of any native law or custom for the time being in force and not repugnant to morality and justice, has the power to prohibit, restrict, regulate or require to be done. In addition, in times of famine, the Native Authority, subject to the same conditions, is empowered to issue orders regulating the movement of the population to facilitate feeding, requiring the cultivation of land and controlling the movement of foodstuffs within his area.

The Governor may specially sanction the issue of orders by a Native Authority for any purpose, either generally or for a particular area. The prior approval of Government for the issue of orders is not required but they must be reported at the earliest possible moment to a superior Native Authority, if any, or the District Commissioner. The Provincial Commissioner, or the District Commissioner with the approval of the Provincial Commissioner, may revoke any order which he considers should not have been issued or which should not be enforced. An offence against an order is normally punishable by a fine not exceeding £5 or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or by both such fine and imprisonment. With few exceptions Native Authorities have issued orders on their own initiative and most of these orders are eminently sensible, though some have required amendment or revision either as being in excess of the powers granted or as being impossible to enforce, *e.g.*, the total prohibition of gambling.

Legislative responsibility is vested in a Native Authority under section 18 of the Native Authority Ordinance which empowers it, subject to the provisions of any Ordinance or other law for the time being in force and to the approval of the Governor, "to make rules to be obeyed by Africans within the local limits of its jurisdiction providing for the peace, good order and welfare of such Africans". Such rules may make provision for the imposition of fees and, when passed, have the authority of Ordinances and may only be revoked with the consent of the Governor. Subject to the approval of the

Governor a Provincial Commissioner or a District Commissioner may himself make rules for any of the purposes mentioned above in respect of the area of jurisdiction of any Native Authority in his Province or District and such rules have the same force and effect as if made by the Native Authority of the area; such rules may not, however, extend to the imposition of fees. Rules made by the Native Authority may at any time be revoked by the Governor. For breach of the rules, penalties may be imposed up to a fine of £50 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.

The legislative or rule-making powers of the Native Authorities have been widely used. In almost every district rules have been made covering such subjects as African canteens, tea-shops, markets, and hotels. The registration of marriages in all Native Authority areas is covered by rules. The manufacture, sale and consumption of native beer are subject to regulation and licensing. Canoe Rules, designed to control the cutting of trees suitable for the construction of canoes, and to make provision for the licensing of canoes, have been made in the areas adjoining Lake Nyasa and large rivers. A development of considerable importance is the increasing extent to which Native Authorities are making rules to ensure proper agricultural practice, land usage and preparation of gardens.

The judicial and financial responsibilities of Native Authorities are dealt with in Part II, Chapters 9 and 3 respectively.

The association of Africans in the work of Government in addition to the Native Authority system is being developed along two main lines—the inclusion of Africans on Government Committees and Boards and the council system. Both Native Authorities and African teachers are represented on District Education Committees and ten Africans are included on the Protectorate Advisory Committee on African Education. In addition, Africans have been appointed to a number of statutory boards and committees such as the African Tobacco Board, the Produce Marketing Board, the Immigration Control Board, Provincial Natural Resources Boards and others.

The council system has been developed with the aim of providing an unbroken ladder of councils from the Legislative Council at the top to village level at the bottom.

The Protectorate Council, under the chairmanship of the Secretary for African Affairs, consists of seven members from each Province. African members of Legislative Council who are not otherwise members of the Protectorate Council are *ex officio* members. Members hold office for two years and are eligible for reappointment. The Council is advisory and non-statutory. It provides an instrument for the expression of African opinion, drawing together leading Africans from all parts of the Protectorate, and aims at developing in them a proper sense of perspective in relation to matters of local and Protectorate-wide interest. It also serves as an electoral college for the appointment of the three African members of the Legislative Council, these three appointments being made by the Governor from a panel of names

submitted as a result of a secret ballot by members of the African Protectorate Council. In 1953 the Council also elected by secret ballot the two specially elected African members of the Federal Assembly.

African Provincial Councils are established in each of the three Provinces and sit twice yearly under the chairmanship of Provincial Commissioners. These Councils are also advisory and non-statutory.

There is no fixed ratio between Chief and non-Chief members of Provincial Councils; in the Central Province the constitution is at present 14 Chiefs to 11 non-Chiefs; in the Southern Province the Council consists of 26 members of whom 16 are Chiefs; and in the Northern Province there are 13 Chiefs to 12 non-Chiefs.

A uniform method of allocating seats to Provincial Councils was introduced in all Provinces a few years ago. A block quota of seats is allocated to each district and nominations to these are made by District Councils or other local government equivalents from among and by the delegates at the meetings of these Councils. The appointments are finally approved by the Governor.

The reconstitution of Provincial Councils was carried out in 1950 in order to encourage the most representative expression of African opinion and to obtain equal opportunity of representation by hereditary dignitaries and others while retaining as far as possible the indigenous tribal structure of administration at Native Authority level and below. That the first of these objects is being achieved is shown by the greatly improved standard of debate in all three Provincial Councils since the reconstitution took place.

Below Provincial Councils District Councils have been established. These District Councils should not be confused with the Councils of Chiefs referred to previously. Hitherto they have been purely advisory and have had no statutory executive, judicial, legislative or financial responsibilities such as those possessed by Councils of Chiefs. Chiefs have sat on them by right and non-Chiefs have been invited to become members either by the Councils of Chiefs, where these exist, or by the District Commissioner who presides at District Council meetings. In many cases, however, membership has been indefinite and anyone interested has been able to attend and speak at these meetings. District Councils on these lines are at present established in most districts of the Protectorate.

With the enactment of the Local Government (District Councils) Ordinance in December, 1953, existing District Councils will in due course give way to statutory multi-racial Councils at district level throughout the Protectorate. This radical change will be introduced gradually and the new Councils will only be formed where it appears that development in a district is sufficiently advanced and the necessary staff and potential members are available, or alternatively where particular circumstances make the early formation of a statutory Council in any district desirable.

District Councils under the new Ordinance will be constituted by Warrant and will be composed of members of all races working together as an effective local government unit. Provision is made for the appointment or election of members. Chiefs and other hereditary dignatories will sit on the Councils and the tribal element in local government will therefore not be disregarded. The powers and duties of the new Councils will be extensive and will include, subject to the Governor's approval, control of the finances of the Council, the levying of rates, taxes and cesses and the power to make bye-laws on subjects connected with administration, social affairs, agriculture, education, finance, forestry, health and sanitation, land, staff pensions, veterinary services and water supplies.

It will thus be seen that the new Councils will in large measure take over from Native Authorities their present financial and legislative responsibilities and it is hoped that with the extensive powers accorded to them by the Ordinance, the Councils will provide a firm foundation on which the future local government of the territory can be built.

The various councils described above have already shown themselves to be a valuable means of obtaining African opinion and advice. Considerable latitude is allowed in their discussions; in the case of Provincial Councils, for instance, subjects for discussion may be introduced either by the Central Government, the Provincial or District Councils or by the individual members themselves. In the case of Group and Village Councils as a rule anyone who is by native custom entitled to speak is allowed to do so.

The townships of Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba, Fort Johnston, Lilongwe and Salima are administered in their domestic affairs by town councils which, in the two former cases, are elected by the rate-payers and in the four latter are nominated by the Governor. One African, representing the African Civil Servants' Association, is appointed a member of the Zomba Town Council.

African urban advisory committees have been established at Blantyre/Limbe, Zomba and Lilongwe to advise the town councils on matters appertaining to the African urban populations.

## MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1953

*President:—*

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (Sir Geoffrey Colby, (K.C.M.G.))

*Ex-Officio Members:—*

THE HON. THE CHIEF SECRETARY (C. W. F. Footman, Esq., C.M.G.)

THE HON. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (J. B. Hobson, Esq., Q.C.)

THE HON. THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY (K. W. Simmonds, Esq.)

*Official Members:—*

THE HON. V. FOX-STRANGWAYS, C.B.E. (Secretary for African Affairs)

THE HON. R. W. KETTLEWELL (Director of Agriculture)

*Unofficial Members:—*

THE HON. SIR MALCOLM BARROW, C.B.E.

THE HON. G. G. S. J. HADLOW, C.B.E.

*NOTES:—*

(1) THE HON. SIR MALCOLM BARROW resigned from the Council in September in order to take up an appointment with the interim Federal Government.

(2) THE HON. K. W. SIMMONDS occupied the post of Acting Chief Secretary during the absence of the HON. C. W. F. FOOTMAN on leave.

(3) THE HON. P. W. YOUENS occupied the post of Acting Chief Secretary for a short period during the absence of the HON. C. W. F. FOOTMAN and the HON. K. W. SIMMONDS on leave.

(4) THE HON. K. G. BENNETT occupied the post of Acting Attorney General during the absence of the HON. J. B. HOBSON on leave.

(5) THE HON. T. S. BELL occupied the post of Acting Financial Secretary during the absences of the HON. K. W. SIMMONDS at the final Conference on Federation, as Acting Chief Secretary and thereafter on leave.

## MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1953

*President:—*

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (Sir Geoffrey Colby, K.C.M.G.).

*Ex-officio Members:—*

THE HON. THE CHIEF SECRETARY (C. W. F. Footman, Esq., C.M.G.)

THE HON. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (J. B. Hobson, Esq., Q.C.)

THE HON. THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY (K. W. Simmonds, Esq.).

*Official Members:—*

- THE HON. V. FOX-STRANGWAYS, C.B.E. (Secretary for African Affairs)  
 THE HON. DR. D. J. M. MACKENZIE, O.B.E. (Director of Medical Services)  
 THE HON. C. H. F. APTHORP, M.V.O. (Commissioner of Police)  
 THE HON. R. W. KETTLEWELL (Director of Agriculture)  
 THE HON. N. F. RICHARDS (Director of Public Works)  
 THE HON. R. F. STOWELL (Director of Education)  
 THE HON. H. H. ARMSTRONG (Commissioner for Labour).

*Unofficial Members:—*

- |                                     |   |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| THE HON. SIR MALCOLM BARROW,        | } | Nominated by the Governor from names submitted by the Convention of Associations.   |
| C.B.E.                              |   |   |
| THE HON. G. G. S. J. HADLOW, C.B.E. |   |   |
| THE HON. L. J. RUMSEY               |   |   |
| THE HON. A. C. W. DIXON             |   |   |
| THE HON. L. F. HUNT                 | } | Nominated by the Governor   |
| THE HON. THE REV. A. B. DOIG        |   |   |
| THE HON. P. DAYARAM                 | } | Nominated by the Governor from names submitted by the Indian Chamber of Commerce.   |
| THE HON. E. K. MPOSA                |   |   |
| THE HON. E. A. MUWAMBA              |   |   |
| THE HON. H. K. GONDWE               |   |   |
|                                     |   | Nominated by the Governor from names submitted by the African Protectorate Council. |

*NOTES:—*

(1) THE HON. K. W. SIMMONDS occupied the post of Acting Chief Secretary during the absence of the HON. C. W. F. FOOTMAN on leave.

(2) THE HON. K. G. BENNETT occupied the post of Acting Attorney General during the absence of the HON. J. B. HOBSON on leave.

(3) THE HON. T. S. BELL occupied the post of Acting Financial Secretary during the absences of the HON. K. W. SIMMONDS at the final Conference on Federation, as Acting Chief Secretary and thereafter on leave.

(4) THE HON. R. F. STOWELL replaced the HON. THE REV. A. G. FRASER in August.

(5) THE HON. L. J. RUMSEY replaced the HON. MRS. R. SHARPE, M.B.E., who resigned in August.

(6) THE HON. H. H. ARMSTRONG and the HON. H. K. GONDWE were appointed in September as additional members.

(7) THE HON. H. J. H. BORLEY (Director of Game, Fish and Tsetse Control) was appointed as an Extraordinary Member for one meeting of Legislative Council.

## Chapter 4. Weights and Measures

Standard British weights and measures are in use throughout the Protectorate.

## Chapter 5. Reading List

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(Prices. including postage.).**

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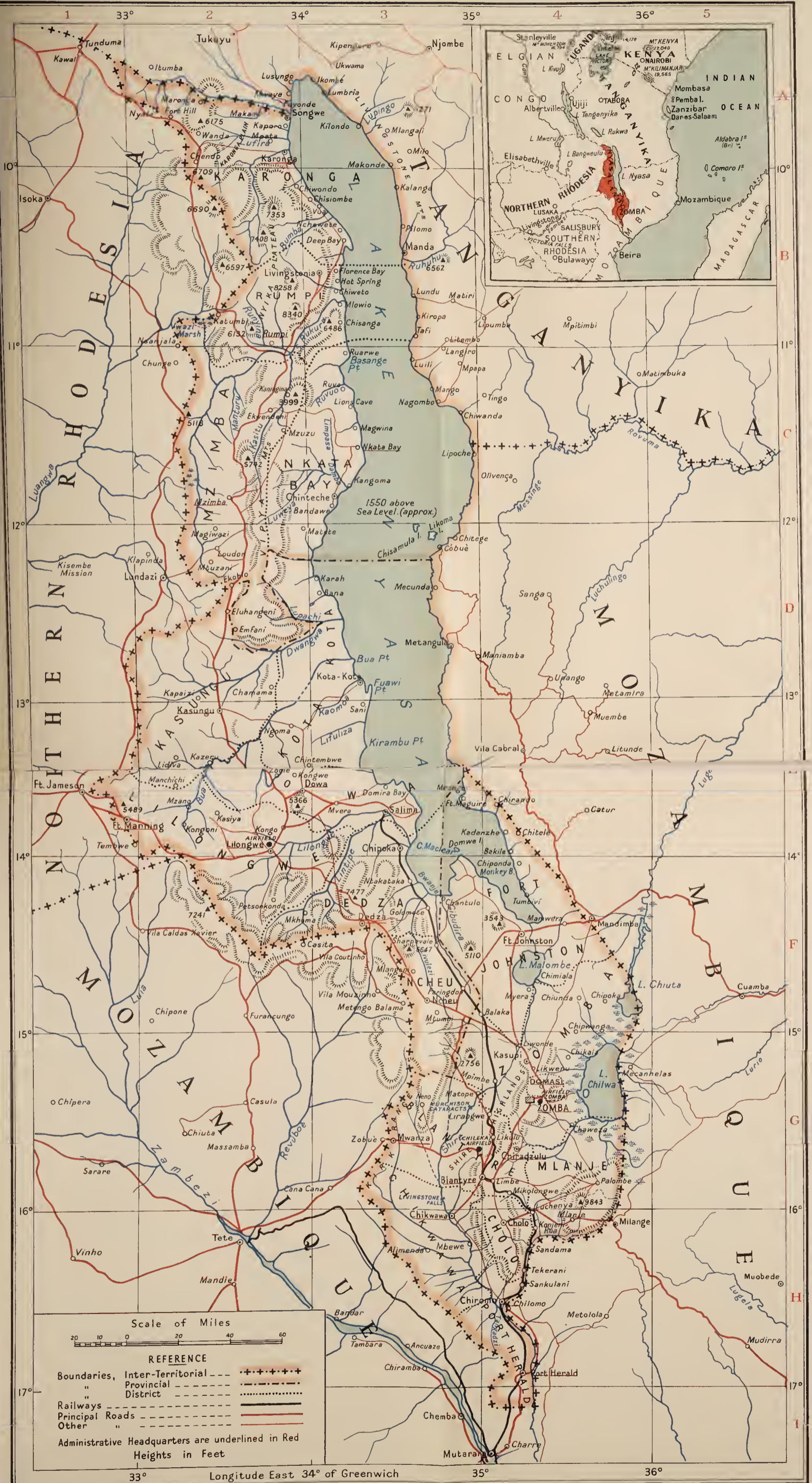
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